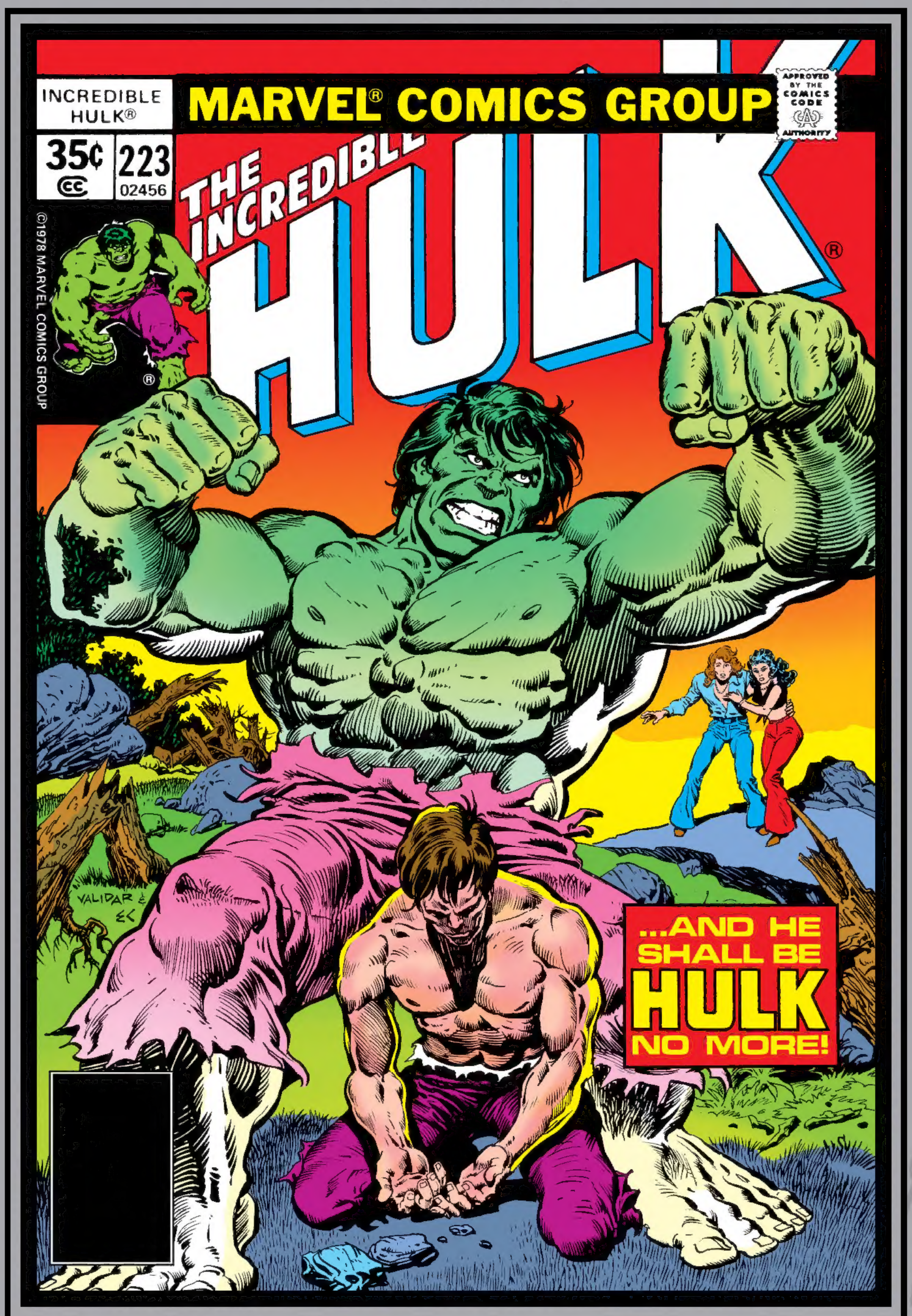
MARVEL MASTERWORKS®
THE INCREDIBLE HULK®
VOLUME 14

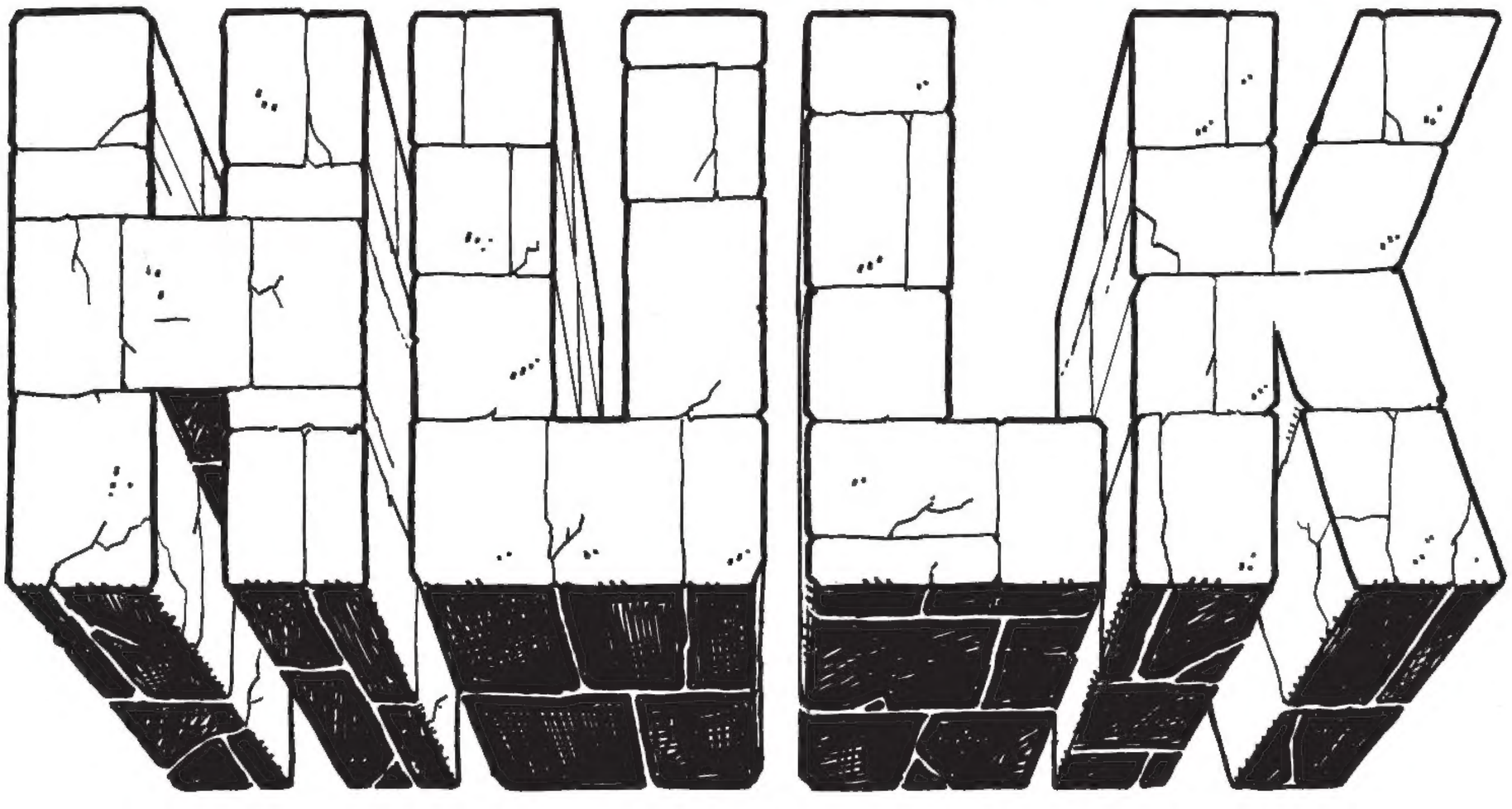


THE INCREDIBLE HULK Nos. 223-233,
ANNUAL No. 7 & CAPTAIN AMERICA No. 230
ROGER STERN & SAL BUSCEMA

MARVEL MASTERWORKS

PRESENTS

THE INCREDIBLE HULK



VOLUME 14

COLLECTING

THE INCREDIBLE HULK Nos. 223-233,
ANNUAL No. 7 & CAPTAIN AMERICA No. 230

ROGER STERN • SAL BUSCEMA

Collection Editor
Cory Sedlmeier
Book Design
Nickel DesignWorks

VP Production & Special Projects
Jeff Youngquist
SVP Print, Sales & Marketing
David Gabriel
Editor in Chief
C.B. Cebulski
Digital Manager/Production
Tim Smith 3
Digital Production
Meghan O'Leary

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CREDITS

THE INCREDIBLE HULK
NOS. 223-233, ANNUAL NO. 7 & CAPTAIN AMERICA NO. 230

Writers: Roger Stern (Nos. 223-229, 231-233, *Annual* No. 7; *Captain America* No. 230)
Peter B. Gillis (Nos. 227, 228)
Elliot S! Maggin (No. 230)
David Michelinie (No. 232)
John Byrne (*Annual* No. 7)
Roger McKenzie (*Captain America* No. 230)

Pencilers/Layouts: Sal Buscema (Nos. 223-229, 231-233; *Captain America* No. 230)
Jim Mooney (No. 230)
John Byrne (*Annual* No. 7)

Inkers/Finishers: Josef Rubinstein (Nos. 223-225)
Joe Sinnott (No. 226)
Klaus Janson (No. 227)
Bob McLeod (No. 228)
Mike Esposito (Nos. 229, 231, 232)
Bob Layton (No. 230, *Annual* No. 7)
Chic Stone (No. 233)
Don Perlin (*Captain America* No. 230)

Letterers: Joe Rosen (No. 223)
John Costanza (Nos. 224, 227, 232)
Rick Parker (Nos. 225, 227)
Irving Watanabe (No. 226)
Bruce Patterson (Nos. 228-230)
Annette Kawecki (No. 231)
Tom Orzechowski (No. 233)
Jim Novak (*Annual* No. 7; *Captain America* No. 230)

Colorists: Glynis Wein (Nos. 223, 227)
Janice Cohen (Nos. 224-226, *Annual* No. 7)
Phil Rachelson (No. 228)
George Roussos (No. 229)
Petra Goldberg (No. 230)
Bob Sharen (No. 231)
Ben Sean (No. 232)
Françoise Mouly (No. 233)
Nel Yomtov (*Captain America* No. 230)

Editors: Archie Goodwin, Jim Shooter, Bob Hall, Roger Stern, Jo Duffy & Al Milgrom

Color & Art Reconstruction: Michael Kelleher & Kellustration (Nos. 223-233, *Annual* No. 7)
All Thumbs Creative (*Captain America* No. 230)

Special Thanks: Ralph Macchio

HULK CREATED BY STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY

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INTRODUCTION
BY ROGER STERN

Welcome, one and all, to the continuing story of the Incredible Hulk and his alter ego, Doctor Robert Bruce Banner. For those of you just joining us, please don't let the fact that this is Volume 14 scare you away. All you really need to know is that Doctor Banner once received a massive dose of gamma radiation, and whenever he gets overly stressed, he turns into the seven-foot-tall, green-skinned Hulk. The comics in this collection will explain everything else you might need to know.

The stories you're about to read were written and drawn circa 1977-1978, and I had a hand in all of them. In our previous volume, I told how I got this job. To briefly recap: I had assisted Len Wein in writing a few issues, and then he decided that I should take over the writing on my lonesome.

My respect for Len was boundless, but regarding that one decision, I thought he'd gone bananas. There I was, coming in at the end of his fabled four-year run, assigned to write stories for the *Incredible Hulk*—a title created by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby—a series which had showcased the talents of such legendary artists as Kirby, Steve Ditko, Bill Everett, John Buscema, Gil Kane, Marie Severin, Herb Trimpe and Sal Buscema. In addition to Stan and Len, the book's roster of writers had included Roy Thomas, Gary Friedrich, Steve Englehart and Archie Goodwin (who was then our editor).

I should have been scared out of my wits to take on such an incredible assignment…and I was. But I didn't have time to stay scared. Deadlines loomed, and I had an artist waiting for my plots. And that turned out to be my saving grace, because Sal Buscema was still the book's artist.

Now, I'd been a fan of Sal's work since he first started working for Marvel in the late '60s. A master storyteller, he's drawn just about all of the residents of the Marvel Universe at one time or another. If you'd told me, even a year before, that I'd be working with one of my favorite artists on a monthly basis—on the *Incredible Hulk*, no less—I truly would have thought you were crazy!

When I first started working with Sal, he'd been drawing the Hulk in his own book since issue #194, and he'd drawn him for four years before that in *The Defenders*. His love of the Hulk always shone through in every panel, and this rookie writer couldn't have been paired with a better artist. No matter what I asked Sal to draw, he could draw it and make it look good.

Working with Sal was some of the best on-the-job training you could get. I'd first had the pleasure of seeing him draw a story of mine just a few months before, when I'd co-written *Thor Annual* #6 with Len Wein. Since then, Sal and I had worked together on three issues of the *Hulk*—two of which I'd co-written with Len, and one written as a lead-in to Len's final issue.

But now the training wheels had come off, and it was up to me to show what I could do behind the keyboard. It helped that Len had set up a number of storylines that I could work with. I started by wrapping up the mystery of an amnesiac stranger whom Wein had first introduced way back in *Incredible Hulk* #208. Len, playing fair, had told me who the mystery man was supposed to be, and I brought that saga to a conclusion. Joe Rubinstein, fresh off his run of finishing Jim Starlin's work on *Avengers Annual* #7 and *Marvel Two-In-One Annual* #2, joined Sal and me on *Incredible Hulk* #223-225.

And what a time we had! We cured Doc Banner of being the Hulk—at least temporarily. (The exact mechanism behind Banner's cure was never spelled out in the story, but in case you were wondering, it was the result of the Hulk's exposure to the gamma ray-generated neurogenic blast in the story I'd written with Len in issue #220.[1]) We also brought back daredevil aviator Spad McCracken, who hadn't been seen in these pages since Englehart and Trimpe introduced him in *Incredible Hulk* #160.

As I recall, Archie Goodwin asked this newbie writer if I had any ideas for the cover of issue #223. I jokingly suggested that, since we were curing Banner and restarting his career, perhaps we could do a homage of the cover of *Incredible Hulk* #1. Archie took me seriously, and the result was in a great-looking cover by Rich Buckler and Ernie Chan.

And there was one other thing. As Sal and I were starting our run together, the Hulk began appearing regularly on television, with Bill Bixby as Doctor Banner and Lou Ferrigno portraying the Hulk. We can't prove that the TV series helped increase the sales of our comics, but it didn't hurt.

After issue #224, Archie stepped down and was succeeded on issue #225 by Jim Shooter, who became the *Hulk*'s editor…at least, for that month. And with *Incredible Hulk* #226, there were other behind-the-scenes changes. Joe Rubinstein left to ink *Iron Man* #113, and soon started work on a new series called the *Micronauts*. The ever-talented Joe Sinnott stepped in to finish Sal's artwork on this issue…and we welcomed new editor Bob Hall to the team.

You see, by 1978, Marvel was publishing over 40 titles a month, way up from the dozen or so titles Stan Lee oversaw a decade earlier. Jim Shooter, our newest editor-in-chief, knew that it was not humanly possible for one individual to personally edit the entire output of the Marvel Comics Group. The whole editorial structure needed to change, and so he'd started hiring editors to oversee subsets of the Marvel Universe. Jim hired Bob Hall to edit one subset—which included the *Hulk*, *Doctor Strange* and the *Defenders*—and Yours Truly to edit another set—which included *Captain America*, *Iron Man* and *The Avengers*. In short order, Bob and I each found ourselves in charge of ten to twelve titles a month.

Our lives became seriously busy. In addition to my editorial duties, I was still writing the *Hulk* every month, and *Doctor Strange* every other month.[2] Plus, the *Incredible Hulk Annual #7* was coming up, and I needed to find time to script that.

In trying to put my editorial house in order, I started falling behind on my own deadlines. I had plotted the story for *Incredible Hulk* #227, but as Sal was finishing up the art, I realized that I would need help to stay on schedule. And that's when I spotted Peter Gillis.

Peter had recently written an issue of *Captain America*[3] for me, so I knew he could make deadlines. Remembering how Len Wein had enlisted me to help him out in a crunch, I talked Gillis into writing a rough first draft for issue #227, buying me time for other pressing assignments.

One of those assignments was the aforementioned *Incredible Hulk Annual* #7, which I was already in the process of producing with John Byrne. John and I first hatched the idea for the *Annual* during one of his periodic visits to the city. He already had an outline for the major beats of a story that involved the Angel, Iceman and a Sentinel, but was unaware of a few recent changes in the Hulk's status quo. So, during his visit, we rearranged things to have all the opening action take place in New Mexico, and in the process, established some fancy new mountain digs for the Angel.

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1 Collected in *Marvel Masterworks: The Incredible Hulk Vol. 13*.
2 The latter stories are collected in *Marvel Masterworks: Doctor Strange Vol. 7*.
3 Issue #224 for those of you who like to keep track of such things.

As I scripted John's pencils, Bob Layton signed on as inker. Just a few short years before, I had worked with John and Bob on comics fanzines, so this made it a little like old home week.

And somewhere in there, I found time to write the final draft of *Incredible Hulk* #227, which led directly into the *Annual.* The *Annual* actually went on sale in some parts of the country before issue #227, but it fits chronologically between that issue and issue #228. In fact—SPOILER ALERT—the dose of Gamma-Epinephrine that Doc Samson gives Doc Banner in issue #227 is the reason why the Hulk never reverts to "Puny Banner" during the *Annual*…or until issue #230, for that matter.

Speaking of the Hulk's regular monthly title, ever since getting this assignment, I'd been trying think of interesting villains who could present new challenges for the Hulk. One day while swapping ideas with Jim Shooter, I suddenly recalled an obscure *Captain America* villain and wondered aloud: "Should I bring back Moonstone?" Jim, being unfamiliar with the character, asked, "Who's she?"—thinking that the name suggested the feminine gender. And I thought, "Well, why not?"

During Byrne's visit, I had offhandedly started describing the new Moonstone and how I wanted her helmet to look. As I talked, John started sketching a likeness, and by the time I was finished, so was he. Thus were the secret origins of a super villain.

Moonstone eventually became a major player in the Marvel Universe. But first, of course, I had to introduce her in a story. With John's sketch in hand, I had a neat visual guide for Sal—hopefully making his job a little easier. Now I just had to find a way to make mine easier deadline-wise.

Again, I enlisted the aid of young Master Gillis. This time, Peter and I sat down and talked out the plot. He typed up a rough draft, which I tweaked here and there. Bob Hall sent the final draft to Sal along with John's new Moonstone design. When Sal's pages arrived, Peter wrote a rough draft of the script. I then polished it into finished form, Bruce Patterson lettered the story and Bob McLeod handled the finished art.

By that time I finally had enough lead time to write *Incredible Hulk* #229 on my lonesome, continuing the psychoanalytical theme we'd set up with Moonstone's alter ego. This time, Mike Esposito stepped in to ink Sal's breakdowns.

So we were finally back on schedule, right? Well, not exactly. Around that time, Marvel's printing schedules started shifting, sometimes without any apparent rhyme or reason. As I recall, it was Jo Duffy—Bob Hall's ever-efficient assistant editor—who broke the news to me that we were facing another deadline crunch for *Incredible Hulk* #230.

Luckily, there was a plotted, penciled and scripted inventory story by Elliot Maggin and Jim Mooney waiting in the files. Unfortunately, Elliot hadn't quite captured the Hulk's speech pattern, so someone suggested that I play script doctor. This I did, adding an extra page—picking up on running subplots—and earning a guest-editor credit in the process, before sending the pages to Bob Layton to ink.

Okay, with that deadline problem resolved, I wrote *Incredible Hulk* #231, introducing Fred Sloan to the Hulk's supporting cast. Somewhere around that time, Bob Hall decided to give up the editorial desk and go freelance, so Jo edited this issue. That issue also set up a major story involving a secret organization known as The Corporation.

The Corporation was a nationwide crime cartel that—true to its name—was run much like a corporation. It had turned up in a number of Marvel Comics over the previous two years, appearing in everything from *Deadly Hands of Kung Fu* to *Captain America*. As the editor of the latter title, I had been working with *Cap* writer Roger McKenzie to come up with a satisfying conclusion to the long-running Corporation Saga.

Corporation operatives had also turned up in the *Hulk*, so we decided that the time was right for a crossover between the two titles. Since I was editing one book and writing the other—and Sal Buscema was drawing both of them—it made perfect sense. But then, things got weird.

As Sal Buscema's artwork started pouring in, I was told that even though the *Captain America* half of the story went on sale first, the *Incredible Hulk* half was due at the printers first. This, of course, made no sense then and makes even less sense now, but that was what the schedules said. The only solution was for us to write both issues more or less simultaneously.

McKenzie, however, had just picked up the writing assignment for Marvel's *Battlestar Galactica* and wouldn't be able to script his part of the crossover. I tried to enlist David Michelinie to script *Captain America*, but David was in the middle of an *Iron Man* assignment and couldn't start for a few days. So I started scripting *Cap* #230, and David—as soon as he could—scripted *Hulk* #232. Fortunately, Jo Duffy was on hand to keep everything coordinated between the two titles.

Looking back, I can see Len Wein's influence still being felt in this crossover. It had long been his idea that the Hulk's old friend Jim Wilson was related to Sam Wilson, the Falcon; he'd just never got a chance to follow through on that notion. Almost a year after his leaving the series, David and I finally brought Len's idea to life.

With *Incredible Hulk* #233, Al Milgrom officially signed on as our editor—still assisted by Jo—and and Sal was joined by Chic Stone. This issue also led to my most direct contact with Sal Buscema, and one of my favorite memories of this series.

Because comics writers and artists are scattered across the globe, we can work together for years without ever meeting our collaborators. That was the case with Sal and me. To this day, I still haven't met him, but during the production of issue #233, we did finally speak.

Sal had finished one of his other assignments and needed to start another immediately so he wouldn't fall behind on his schedule. And I had almost, but not quite, finished writing the plot to *Hulk* #233. This being pre-internet, I called Sal and read part of the plot to him over the phone. When I got to the scene where—SPOILER ALERT—Marvel Man fires a warning blast at the Hulk's feet, Sal immediately laughed and said, "Big mistake!" And then I laughed, because "Big mistake!" was exactly the next phrase in my rough draft.

And that unforgettable moment brings us to the end of our behind-the-scenes tour of *Marvel Masterworks: The Incredible Hulk Vol. 14*. There is more—much more—to come, but that story will have to wait until next time. For now, the further adventures of the Incredible Hulk, his friends, and his creative staff must remain…to be continued.

Roger Stern
2020

Roger Stern wrote The Incredible Hulk *for another year, while—somehow—continuing to edit a dozen other Marvel Comics titles. He's still not sure how he managed to do that.*

INCREDIBLE HULK®

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THE INCREDIBLE HULK®

...AND HE SHALL BE HULK NO MORE!

VALIDAR & EC

Caught in the heart of a ***Nuclear Explosion,*** victim of ***Gamma-Radiation*** gone wild, ***Doctor Robert Bruce Banner*** now finds himself transformed in times of stress into seven feet, one thousand pounds of unfettered *Fury*—the most powerful creature to ever walk the earth—

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE INCREDIBLE HULK!®

DID YOU EVER EXPERIENCE ONE OF THOSE TRULY **GREAT MOMENTS**? THE KIND THAT HAPPEN ON A **SUNNY AFTERNOON** WHEN YOU'RE ALONE WITH SOMEONE YOU **LOVE**--AND YOU HAVEN'T A CARE IN THE **WORLD**?

WELL, DEAR FRIENDS, WHAT YOU ARE WITNESSING IS **NOT** ONE OF THOSE MOMENTS!

ALICE? WHAT'S **WRONG**, HON? YOU'RE SHAKIN' LIKE A **LEAF!**

♪POOR, POOR, PITIFUL ME...♪

ROGER STERN, WRITER
SAL BUSCEMA, ILLUSTRATOR
JOSEF RUBINSTEIN, EMBELLISHER
JOE ROSEN, LETTERER
GLYNIS WEIN, COLORIST
AND ARCHIE GOODWIN EDITOR

CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THE BEGINNING OF A BOLD NEW HULK SAGA...

THE CURING OF DR. BANNER!

THIS IS THE **INCREDIBLE HULK**, DOING WHAT HE DOES BEST... **RUNNING AMOK!**

OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS, THE EMERALD MAN-MONSTER HAS BEEN **DUNKED** IN THE ATLANTIC OCEAN, **HOUNDED** BY SUPER-HEROES AND MONSTERS, **BLASTED** WITH HEAVY RADIATION, AND **GASSED** BY OUR ARMED FORCES.

HOLY HANNAH!

THOOM

AIEEE!

AFTER A NIGHT OF **BOUNDING** ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE OF THESE UNITED STATES, HE HAS FINALLY TOUCHED DOWN **HERE**, IN **CENTRAL TEXAS**.

HE IS, TO SAY THE LEAST, **NOT** IN THE BEST OF **MOODS**.

THA-

WHAM!

AND, GIVEN IMMEDIATE CIRCUMSTANCES, HIS DEMEANOR IS NOT LIKELY TO IMPROVE ANY TIME SOON!

JIMINY CHRISTMAS! IT-- IT'S THE HULK! I THOUGHT HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD!

GEE, HE HIT AWFULLY HARD, LARRY! M-MAYBE HE IS DEAD... NOW!

WRONG, ALICE!

LARRY! HE--HE'S ALIVE! HELP ME!

UNH?! LEAVE HULK ALONE!

DO YOU HEAR, HUMANS? LEAVE HULK ALONE!

DON'T JUST STAND THERE, ALICE--RUN! I'LL TRY TO HOLD HIM OFF!

OKAY, BIG FELLA-- JUST TAKE IT EASY!

NO! HULK WILL NOT TAKE IT EASY! HULK IS SICK OF BEING TOLD WHAT TO DO--

OBOY.

CRACK!

--AND TIRED OF BEING ATTACKED!

OH, LARRY! WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?

I DUNNO, HON. MAYBE WE CAN DISTRACT HIM!

STOP TALKING ABOUT HULK LIKE HULK ISN'T HERE!

AS THE HULK CLOSES IN ON THE YOUNG COUPLE, HIS ANGER BEGINS TO BUILD--

--AND THE MADDER HULK GETS, THE STRONGER... HEY! WAIT A MINUTE!

HULK IS NOT STUPID, HUMANS!

IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE MONSTER IS GETTING STRONGER TO US!

HULK DOESN'T LIKE PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT HULK THAT WAY!

IF ANYTHING, HE SEEMS TO BE CHANGING BACK TO--

AND HULK ISN'T GOING TO TAKE IT ANYMORE!

--ROBERT BRUCE BANNER?!

HULK WILL SMASH YOU ALL!

HUH?

YOU--YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING!

LARRY, WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM? HE'S GOTTEN SO... SO PUNY!

PUNY?! HULK WILL SHOW STUPID HUMANS WHO IS PUNY!

THWAP

YEOOOW! HULK NEARLY BROKE MY FOOT!

MY FOOT?!

UNHH? WHAT IS HULK SAYING? HULK... I...

GOOD LORD! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

AS IF THE REALIZATION OF HIS BIZARRE TRANSFORMATION WAS A TRIGGER, THE ODDLY-GREEN DR.BANNER SUDDENLY LIGHTS UP LIKE A NUCLEAR FLARE!

ALICE-- DON'T LOOK!

AND WHEN THE GLARE DIES AWAY, ALL THAT IS LEFT, IS A SLIGHTLY-BUILT, VERY **NORMAL** MAN.

=WHEW= SORRY IF I **SCARED** YOU KIDS! I MUST HAVE BURNT OFF ALL MY **GAMMA ENERGY!**

B-BURNT OFF?

YES, FOR SOME REASON, MY **BODY CHEMISTRY** MUST HAVE CHANGED JUST ENOUGH TO... TO...

...BURN OFF THE GAMMA RADIATION IN MY BODY.

ALL OF IT.

YAHOO! I'M **CURED!**

GEE, I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW YOU WERE **SICK!**

OH, LORD--YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS **MEANS** TO ME! **BLESS** YOU KIDS...BLESS US **ALL!**

HEY!

UH... MISTER?

I **THINK** YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE **DONE** THAT.

=OWFF=

KRAK!

HULK OR **NO** HULK, **NOBODY** PUTS THE MOVES ON **MY** LI'L ALICE!

COME ON, **ROMEO**--GET BACK **UP**, SO I CAN KNOCK YOU **DOWN** AGAIN!

WHY, YOU **PETTY-MINDED** LITTLE **PUNK!** I OUGHT TO...

WHAT AM I **SAYING?** I-I'M **MAD!** I'M MAD, AND I'M **HURT**...AND I'M **NOT** CHANGING INTO THE HULK!

IT'S **TRUE!** I'M **NORMAL** AGAIN--YOU **HEAR? NORMAL!**

NO MORE **WAKING UP** IN STRANGE PLACES! NO MORE BEING HUNTED... **HOUNDED!**

NO MORE HULK! HA-HA-HA!

GEE, YOU DIDN'T HIT HIM **TOO** HARD--DIDJA, LARRY?

AND, WHILE DR. BANNER REJOICES OVER HIS **GOOD FORTUNE**--

--JUST A FEW HUNDRED MILES AWAY, AT NEW MEXICO'S **GAMMA BASE**, THE SEARCH FOR A MISSING **AMNESIAC** IS FINALLY DRAWING TO A **FATEFUL** CONCLUSION...

WELL, DOCTOR SAMSON, MY MEN ARE ALL CLEARED AND **READY**-- BUT I **STILL** THINK YOU'RE **WRONG**.

YOUR MYSTERY MAN COULDN'T **POSSIBLY** HAVE GOTTEN INTO THE **TOP-SECURITY LABS!**

MAYBE **NOT**, BUT WE'LL NEVER **KNOW** UNTIL WE CHECK!

AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

JUST A FEW DAYS AGO,* I FOUND OUR "JOHN DOE" WANDERING ABOUT THE **DECLASSIFIED** LAB AREAS, LIKE HE WAS TRYING TO **FIND** SOMETHING.

*HULK #213--A.G.

SO IF HE'S NOWHERE **ELSE** TO BE FOUND ON BASE, THEN-- UNLIKELY AS IT SEEMS-- I'M **SURE** WE'LL FIND HIM IN **HERE!**

OUT FROM SAMSON'S **ELECTRO-KEY** SHOOTS A SPECIALLY CODED BEAM OF **COHERENT LIGHT**--

--ACTIVATING FINELY-TOOLED TUMBLERS WITHIN THE **MAGNO-LOCK**, AND **OPENING** THE TITANIUM STEEL DOOR OF THE LAB COMPLEX.

AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

BUT BEFORE THE GREEN-TRESSED SCIENTIST-STRONGMAN CAN MAKE A MOVE, A **DIFFERENT** KIND OF COHERENT BEAM **BLASTS OUT** WITH FAR **DEADLIER** INTENT!

UNNGH!

SAMSON! MY GOD!

GENERAL ROSS! **HIT THE DIRT**, SIR! WHOEVER'S IN THERE IS PLAYING FOR **KEEPS!**

WELL, WHAT'RE YA **WAITING** FOR, YA GROUND-HOGS?

OPEN FIRE!

BUDDA-
BUDDA-BUDDA-
OKAY, THAT'S ENOUGH! CEASE FIRING--
BUDDA
BUDDA-BUDDA-
CHA-POW
CHA-POW

--AND FOLLOW ME! IF HE'S STILL ALIVE, I WANT TO TAKE HIM THAT WAY!
SAMSON--ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MAN?
BE...FINE... IN A MINUTE.
D-DON'T LET THEM... GO IN THE LAB.

"DON'T LET--?! THUNDERATION, SAMSON, IT'S TOO LATE TO STOP THEM NOW!"
I DON'T GET IT, CAPTAIN-- THERE'S NOBODY HERE!
SPREAD OUT, THERE HAS TO BE SOMEONE HERE...SOMEWHERE!

BUT HARDLY DO THE G.I.'S BEGIN TO CARRY OUT THEIR CHIEF'S ORDERS, WHEN...
HEY! WHAT'S THAT? SOME KINDA FIRE DOOR?
CHA-KLANG!

AND THEN...
YAHHH! MY HEAD! SOMETHING'S TEARING MY MIND APART!
NOOO

LORD ALMIGHTY! WHAT'S *GOING ON* IN THERE?

THE--THE *LAST* TIME I HEARD MEN IN PAIN LIKE THAT, WAS THE DAY WE LIBERATED *AUSCHWITZ.*

EEYYAAAA

I'VE GOT TO GET THEM *OUT-- IMMEDIATELY!*

WITH NARY A SECOND THOUGHT, DOC SAMSON **PLUNGES** *HIS FINGERS DEEP INTO SIX INCHES OF* **SOLID STEEL**--

--AND, WITH A STRENGTH **RIVALING** *THAT OF THE HULK HIMSELF,* **RIPS** *THE BARRIER OUT OF HIS WAY--*

SKEE-RUNCH

--AND **RUSHES** *TO* **AID** *HIS FELLOW MAN.*

ALAS, THE DOCTOR ARRIVES JUST **SECONDS** *TOO LATE.*

WHA--? THEY'RE... *ENTRANCED.*

CAPTAIN BOWMAN! *SNAP OUT* OF IT, MAN!

IT'S NO *USE,* HIS MIND IS *GONE. WHO* COULD HAVE *DONE* THIS, SAMSON?

WHY, I'M *SURPRISED* AT YOU, GENERAL! HAVEN'T YOU *GUESSED* BY NOW?

WHO?

NO, IT *CAN'T* BE.

AND WHY *CAN'T* IT, GENERAL? AFTER ALL, IT WAS *SIMPLE* FOR A BEING OF *MY INTELLECT* TO CHANGE MY BODY BACK INTO ITS DISGUSTINGLY *HUMAN* FORM--

--A FORM WHICH *YOU* WOULD *FOOLISHLY* ALLOW TO ENTER YOUR *MUCH VAUNTED* GAMMA BASE!

OR, *RATHER* I SHOULD SAY, *MY* GAMMA BASE!

AT THAT MOMENT, JUST OUTSIDE GARLAND, TEXAS...

HERE WE *ARE*, DR. BANNER! LONE STAR SKY-PORT MAY NOT BE *MUCH*--

--BUT YOU *OUGHTA* BE ABLE TO FIND YOURSELF A PLANE AND A PILOT!

REALLY, I CAN'T THANK YOU KIDS *ENOUGH!* IF THIS OLD PHYSICIST CAN EVER DO *YOU* A FAVOR...

SHUCKS, THAT'S OKAY, DOC. IT'S NOT *EVERYDAY* WE GET TO SEE THE END OF A *LEGEND!* YOU TAKE CARE NOW!

END OF A *LEGEND*, EH? YEAH, I GUESS IT *IS*, AT THAT!

I JUST CAN'T GET OVER IT! *NO MORE HULK!* I WONDER IF I'LL *EVER* DISCOVER WHAT TRIGGERED THE *CHANGE* IN MY BODY CHEMISTRY?

WELL, I CAN WORRY ABOUT *THAT* LATER. RIGHT *NOW*, I'D BETTER GET OUT TO *NEW MEXICO*--AND TELL ROSS HE CAN CALL OFF THE *DOGS!*

HEY, IS THAT WHO I *THINK* IT IS?

IT *IS!*

AS I LIVE AND BREATHE-- *SPAD McCRAKEN!**

EH? DO I KNOW *YOU*, AMIGO?

*LAST SEEN IN HULK #160-- ARCH.

OH, *NO!* IT'S *YOU*-- THAT *BANNER* GUY!

THE HULK!!

LEMME OUTTA HERE!

HEY, WAIT!

McCRAKEN! COME BACK HERE! I'M NOT--!

NO GOOD! HE WON'T STOP UNTIL HE'S HALFWAY TO MISSOURI!

AND I CAN'T HAVE HIM SCREAMING "THE HULK IS COMING!" ALL OVER CREATION--

OH, LORDY! HE'S GOT ME-- I'M DEAD!

SO I'LL JUST HAVE TO STOP HIM THE HARD WAY!

WELL, NOT QUITE, SPAD--

K-E-R-A-S-H!

--BUT YOU WILL BE A TRIFLE SORE IN THE MORNING!

OUCH! SO MUCH FOR THE JOYS OF BEING NORMAL!

I THINK I'VE JUST TRADED GREEN SKIN FOR THE BLACK-&-BLUE VARIETY!

:OOOHHH: WHERE AM I?

I HURT TOO MUCH TO BE IN HEAVEN, AND IT'S NOT HOT ENOUGH FOR...

OH, NO--IT'S NOT OVER YET! Y-YOU'RE GONNA MAKE ME SUFFER BEFORE YOU TEAR ME APART!

HEY, EASE ON DOWN, SPAD! NOBODY'S GOING TO HURT YOU!

WHAT'S MORE, I CAN'T "TEAR YOU APART"! I'M CURED, SPAD! I DON'T KNOW HOW EXACTLY, BUT I'M NORMAL AGAIN!

THE HULK IS GONE, SPAD--UNDERSTAND?

Y-YEAH.

I UNDERSTAND PLENTY, YOU SPINDLY EXCUSE FOR A HUMAN BEING! I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU COST ME THE SWEETEST LITTLE PLANE I EVER OWNED!

HUH?

DID YOU EVER TRY COLLECTING INSURANCE FOR "HULK DAMAGE"?

WELL, DON'T! THE ADJUSTER WILL JUST LAUGH AT YOU!

DO ME A FAVOR, BANNER-- GET AWAY FROM ME-- FAR, FAR AWAY!

SPAD, I-I'M SORRY!

LOOK, IF I CAN, I'D LIKE TO MAKE IT UP TO YOU!

AS A MATTER OF FACT, I NEED A PILOT RIGHT NOW!

GET STUFFED!

SPAD, I NEED TO GET TO NEW MEXICO IN A HURRY!

SPAD, THERE'S MONEY IN IT FOR YOU!

I DON'T CARE IF THERE'S...

DID YOU SAY... MONEY?

MONEY, IT WOULD SEEM, IS AN ALMOST **UNIVERSAL** TOPIC. EVEN IN APRIL SOMMERS' MANHATTAN APARTMENT HOUSE, THE SUBJECT IN **QUESTION** IS...

MONEY, LADY!

Rooms To LET

EITHER I GET PAID **RIGHT NOW**, OR ME AND YER NEW **DOOR** ARE TAKIN' A **WALK!**

OH, BE **REASONABLE!** MY INSURANCE ADJUSTER SAID THERE'D BE A SLIGHT **DELAY** IN SETTLING MY CLAIM. YOU CAN'T JUST **TAKE** THE FRONT DOOR!

TRY ME!

JUST A **MINUTE**, APRIL.

IF "**MR. ECONOMY**" HERE IS SO **HARD UP** FOR HIS MONEY, **I'LL** PAY FOR THE DOOR! *

HOW MUCH DO WE **OWE** YOU, BIG MAN?

*BROKEN TWO ISSUES AGO BY THE HULK -- A.G.

WELL, WHAT WITH YER MATERIALS AND **LABOR**, I FIGURE ABOUT $**500**-- AND THAT'S **CHEAP!**

WHOA! NOT CHEAP ENOUGH FOR **ME!**

SORRY, APRIL. I GUESS--

HOLD, MY FRIENDS! YOUR MONETARY WORRIES ARE **AT AN END!** I SHALL BE **MORE** THAN HAPPY TO DEFRAY YOUR EXPENSES!

HUH?

I DON'T **BELIEVE** IT!

KROPOTKIN THE GREAT? WITH **MONEY?!**

INDEED! IS **THAT** SO HARD TO FATHOM, M'LAD?

LET ME **SEE**... 200, 300, 400...

...**THERE** YOU ARE, MY GOOD MAN--$500. AND A **GOOD DAY** TO YOU!

GEE, **TANKS**, PAL! IT'S A **PLEASURE** DOIN' BUSINESS WITH YOUSE!

NATURALLY!

HMMM.

ALL RIGHT, KROPOTKIN, WHAT'S THE *STORY*? WHERE'D YOU GET THE *BANKROLL*?

YEAH, M'MAN -- YOU'VE GOTTA *ADMIT*, WEALTH AND YOU ARE NOT THE *CLOSEST* OF FRIENDS!

ALAS, *TOO TRUE!* BUT DAME FORTUNE SMILED MOST BENIGNLY THIS PAST EVENING!

I CHANCED UPON A *PROFITABLE* ENGAGEMENT AT AN ELKS' CLUB *SMOKER* IN GARDEN CITY!

YOU DON'T MAKE *THAT* KIND OF MONEY AT A *SMOKER!*

NO, BUT I DID MANAGE TO *PARLAY* MY PALTRY SALARY INTO A MORE *HANDSOME* SUM BY ENTERING A FEW *GAMES OF CHANCE*. NOT BAD, EH?

NOT BAD AT *ALL*, KROPOTKIN! IN FACT, THIS OUGHT TO *JUST ABOUT* COVER THE *BACK RENT* YOU OWE ME!

=ULP=

AH, WELL -- EASY *COME*, EASY *GO!* *TELL* ME, FRIEND JIM -- HAVE YOU ANY *PLANS* FOR YOUR FUTURE?

WELL... NOT *REALLY.*

IN THAT CASE, M'LAD, I HAVE A LITTLE *PROPOSITION*...

*AND WHILE KROPOTKIN UNFOLDS HIS OFFER TO JIM WILSON, WE ONCE AGAIN TURN **WESTWARD**--*

*-- TO THE CLEAR BLUE SKIES OF **NEW MEXICO**, WHERE FLY MESSRS. BANNER AND McCRAKEN...*

*...ALBEIT SOMEWHAT **UNEASILY.***

GIVE ME A *BREAK*, McCRAKEN! YOU'VE BEEN *COMPLAINING* FOR THE LAST *HUNDRED MILES!*

AND YOU'LL BE HEARIN' ME COMPLAININ' A *LOT MORE* IF I LOSE MY LICENSE FOR FLYIN' YOU INTO A *RESTRICTED AREA*, AMIGO!

ATTENTION, UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT--THIS IS **GAMMA CONTROL!** YOU ARE VIOLATING A **FEDERAL AIR SPACE.** PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELVES **IMMEDIATELY!** OVER.

THERE, YA **SEE?** THEY'LL **GROUND** ME FOR **SURE!**

HERE, **GIVE** ME THAT MIKE!

GAMMA CONTROL, THIS IS DR. **ROBERT BRUCE BANNER!**

WHAT?!

I **THOUGHT** THAT MIGHT GET A' **RISE** OUT OF YOU. NOW **LISTEN,** PEOPLE, YOU AREN'T GOING TO **BELIEVE** THIS, BUT...

AND SO, ONE FAST EXPLANATION AND A SET OF LANDING INSTRUCTIONS LATER, BANNER AND McCRAKEN **SET DOWN** ON A GAMMA BASE AIRSTRIP--

--A VERY **DESERTED** GAMMA BASE AIRSTRIP.

I DON'T **GET** IT! I DIDN'T EVEN EXPECT THEM TO **BELIEVE** MY STORY.

BUT EVEN IF THEY **DID,** I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THE PLANE WOULD BE MET BY AT LEAST HALF AN **ARMORED DIVISION--**

--NOT **ONE LONE OFFICER** IN A JEEP!

AND EVEN WHEN THAT **JEEP** PULLS TO A HALT--

--ITS DRIVER PROVES TO BE A BIT... **DETACHED.**

DR. BANNER, I'M CAPTAIN BOWMAN OF **BASE SECURITY.** I HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO **DELIVER** YOU TO THE **BASE COMMANDER.**

UH,.. **SURE THING,** CAPTAIN. SAY, WHERE'S **GLENN TALBOT?** I HALF EXPECTED **HIM.**

MAJOR TALBOT IS ON **EXTENDED LEAVE,** SIR.*

*SINCE ISSUE #210--A.G.

HEY, DOC--I'VE BEEN ON A **LOT** OF MILITARY BASES IN MY TIME, BUT I'VE **NEVER** SEEN ANYTHING LIKE **THIS!**

WHAT DO THEY **RECRUIT** IN THESE PARTS--**ZOMBIES?**

WELL, **GAMMA** HAS NEVER BEEN YOUR AVERAGE BASE, SPAD, BUT-- YEAH, THINGS **DO** SEEM A LITTLE **ODD.**

SHORTLY...

UH, CAPTAIN? I *EXPECTED* TO BE TAKEN TO GENERAL ROSS' OFFICES. WHAT--?

THE C.O. IS *PRESENTLY OCCUPIED* IN THE TOP SECURITY LABS, DOCTOR. MY ORDERS ARE TO BRING YOU *DIRECTLY* TO HIM.

OH... *YES*...OF COURSE.

I'M *TELLIN'* YA, AMIGO-- I DON'T LIKE THIS *ONE BIT.*

NEITHER DO *I*, SPAD-- BUT ALL WE CAN DO *NOW* IS SEE ROSS, AND FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON.

ON DOWN THE SLEEK, *STERILE* CORRIDOR, CAPTAIN BOWMAN LEADS HIS CHARGES--

--THEIR FOOTSTERS ECHOING *EERILY* AFTER THEM--

--UNTIL FINALLY...

CAPTAIN, MR. MCCRAKEN DOES *NOT* HAVE A *CLEARANCE* FOR THIS AREA!

IN THROUGH *HERE*, GENTLEMEN.

IT'S... *QUITE* ALL RIGHT. THE C.O. HAS GIVEN HIS *APPROVAL.*

DOC, I HAVEN'T FELT *THIS* ANTSY SINCE I FLEW THE TIJUANA RUN WITHOUT *INSTRUMENTS!*

RELAX, SPAD. WE'RE GOING TO GET SOME ANSWERS *RIGHT NOW!*

GENERAL ROSS-- ARE YOU *THERE?*

SUDDENLY...

KLANG!

EH?

CRIMENY! WHAT'S GOIN' ON?

YOU *HEARD* THE MAN, ROSS! WHAT KIND OF *GAME* IS THIS?

OH, *PLEASE* DON'T BLAME THE GOOD *GENERAL*, DOCTOR! THIS WAS *HARDLY* HIS DOING!

AAAHH!

HEY! WATCH IT WITH THE *LIGHTS*, WILL YA?

BUT OF *COURSE*, MR.--McCRAKEN, IS IT? I APOLOGIZE FOR YOUR RATHER *STRANGE* RECEPTION, BUT THE NEWS OF DR. BANNER'S CURE NECESSITATED A SLIGHT CHANGE IN MY PLANS.

I HAD *EXPECTED* TO FACE AS MUCH TROUBLE IN HANDLING THE *HULK* AS I HAD WITH DOCTOR SAMSON HERE. THAT IS ALL *CHANGED* NOW.

AH, BUT WE HAVEN'T BEEN *INTRODUCED*, HAVE WE?

I, MR. McCRAKEN, AM *THE LEADER!*

AND, *VERY SOON*, IT WILL BE MY PLEASURE TO *RULE* THIS WORLD!

NEXT **FOLLOW THE LEADER!**

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THE INCREDIBLE HULK®

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ERNIE CHAN 1977

THE HULK NO LONGER EXISTS! BUT DON'T TELL THE LEADER.. HE'S TOO BUSY TRYING TO KILL HIM!

Caught in the heart of a ***Nuclear Explosion,*** victim of ***Gamma-Radiation*** gone wild, ***Doctor Robert Bruce Banner*** now finds himself transformed in times of stress into seven feet, one thousand pounds of unfettered *Fury*—the most powerful creature to ever walk the earth—

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FOLLOW THE LEADER!

HA-HA-HA! IT'S *TRUE!* BRUCE BANNER IS NO LONGER THE *HULK!*

NOW THERE IS *NO ONE* TO STOP MY PLANS FOR *WORLD DOMINATION!*

C-79L

YOU SEEM AWFULLY *SURE* OF YOURSELF, LEADER! JUST OFFHAND, I CAN THINK OF A FEW *DOZEN* PEOPLE WHO WILL GIVE YOU *TROUBLE!*

PERHAPS I *WAS* BEING SIMPLISTIC, BANNER-- BUT ONLY THE *HULK*, WITH HIS RAGING *IGNORANCE*, WAS A FACTOR FOR WHOM I COULD NOT EASILY *PLAN!*

OBSERVE HOW *EASILY* SAMSON AND ROSS WERE OVERCOME BY MY *SUPERIOR MIND!* WHY, YOUR FRIEND *McCRAKEN* NO LONGER EVEN HAS A MIND OF HIS *OWN!*

AND ONCE MY *MASTER PLAN* IS SET INTO MOTION, NOT EVEN THE *AVENGERS* OR THE SCATTERED MEMBERS OF THE *FANTASTIC FOUR* WILL BE ABLE TO STOP ME!

HMMM. NOW THAT MY *PARALYSIS* IS CURED, I MUST DEVISE A FITTING *PUNISHMENT* FOR THE THING!

"YOU SEEM *PUZZLED*, BANNER! PERHAPS YOU DON'T *REMEMBER* OUR LAST ENCOUNTER-- WHEN BOTH HULK AND THING WERE *PAWNS* IN A GAME OF CHESS I PLAYED WITH *KURRGO*, THE ALIEN PLANET *MASTER!* *

* MARVEL FEATURES #11--A.G.

"UNFORTUNATELY, YOU AND THE THING PROVED TO BE *TOO MUCH* FOR KURRGO'S PATHETIC STARSHIP. JUST BEFORE IT *EXPLODED*, HOWEVER, I WAS ABLE TO ACTIVATE MY *ELECTRO-WAVE MATTER TRANSPORTER*, BEAMING MYSELF OUT OF MY *AUTO-MEDIC CAPSULE* --

"--AND INTO MY **SECRET HEADQUARTERS**, HALF A WORLD AWAY, WHERE MY PARALYZED BODY COULD BE TENDED BY MY STAFF OF **ARTIFICIAL HUMANOIDS**.

"THERE, I SPENT EVERY WAKING MOMENT TRYING TO RETURN **VITALITY** TO MY LIMBS. FINALLY, IN DESPERATION, I USED THE POWER OF MY MIND TO **REGRESS** MY BODY TO ITS **HUMAN FORM**.

"REMARKABLY, MY HUMAN SELF ENJOYED **FULL MOBILITY**.

"AND SO, FOLLOWING MY PROGRAMMED **INSTRUCTIONS**, MY HUMANOIDS TELEPORTED ME TO THE **NEW MEXICAN DESERT**..

GAMMA BF

NO ADMITTANC

"--WHERE I COULD STAGGER INTO YOUR GAMMA BASE... AN **AMNESIAC!**

"OH, **YES!** MY HUMAN SELF WAS NOT CONSCIOUSLY **AWARE** OF MY GLORIOUS PAST. HOWEVER, MY POWERFUL **SUPEREGO** STILL LURKED IN HIS SUBCONSCIOUS, GUIDING HIM LIKE A **PUPPET** UNTIL THE RIGHT LABORATORY WAS FOUND.

"IT WAS THEN A **SIMPLE** MATTER TO EXPOSE THE BODY TO THE EXACT AMOUNT OF GAMMA RADIATION NEEDED TO RESTORE MY **PROPER FORM** WITH **FULL VITALITY!**

NOW, GAMMA BASE IS **MINE!** FROM THIS COMPLEX I SHALL **CONQUER THE WORLD!**

WELL, THAT BEING THE CASE, WHY ARE YOU KEEPING *US* AROUND? WHY NOT JUST *BRAIN-ZAP* US LIKE YOU HAVE THE *REST* OF THE BASE?

BECAUSE, MY DEAR BANNER, I DESIRE AN *AUDIENCE* WHICH CAN FULLY APPRECIATE MY MACHINATIONS!

AFTER ALL, MOST OF THE WORLD WILL BE *UNAWARE* OF MY PRESENCE -- UNTIL IT IS *TOO LATE!*

THAT'S IT, BANNER-- KEEP HIM *TALKING* JUST A WHILE *LONGER.*

IT'S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO GET ANY *LEVERAGE* IN THIS POSITION -- BUT IF... I STRAIN... *ENOUGH*... I THINK I CAN...

...*BREAK FREE!*

KER-RACK

ALL RIGHT, LEADER--

KROOM

--YOUR REIGN AS *WORLD DICTATOR* HAS JUST BEEN *TERMINATED!*

SAMSON?! YOU THINK *YOU* CAN STOP ME?

I DON'T JUST *THINK* SO, MISTER-- I *KNOW* SO!

FOOL! YOU HAVEN'T THE STRENGTH IN YOUR BODY TO EVEN *STRIKE* ME!

I DON'T--?! WHY, YOU POMPOUS LITTLE *MARTINET!* I'LL--I'LL--

--I'LL...

FOR A MOMENT, SAMSON FREEZES IN MID-STRIDE. AND THEN...

WHY, DOCTOR SAMSON! HAVING A BIT OF *TROUBLE* WITH YOUR *MOTOR CONTROL?*

COULD IT BE THAT YOU'VE RUN UP AGAINST ONE OF THE LITTLE *MENTAL BLOCKS* I PLACED IN YOUR MIND?

YOU PATHETIC HUMAN *TRASH!* YOU CAN'T STRIKE ME! YOU CAN'T EVEN LEAVE THIS BUILDING UNLESS I RELEASE YOUR *SUBLIMINAL BONDS!*

SHEK!

GAMMA CONTROL TO LEADER! SHIELD LIASON CLAY QUARTER-MAIN HAS ENTERED BASE AIRSPACE, NOW IN FINAL APPROACH.

EXCELLENT! YET *ANOTHER* GUEST FOR MY LITTLE TEA PARTY!

I DO HOPE YOU'LL *EXCUSE* ME, GENTLEMEN, BUT I HAVE A *NEW* BRAIN TO PICK.

AND ADDING SOME OF *SHIELD'S TOP SECRETS* TO MY KNOWLEDGE SHOULD MAKE MY TASK EVER SO MUCH *EASIER!*

HA HAHA

DAMN YOU, LEADER.

SLAM

HE--HE'S *DONE* IT THIS TIME. WE'RE *HELP-LESS*.

THE *BLAZES* WE ARE! HEY, SAMSON! SNAP *OUT* OF IT!

LOOK, MAYBE WE *ARE* STUCK IN HERE--BUT WE'RE NOT DEFEATED *YET!* COME GET ME *OUT* OF HERE!

YES! YOU'RE *RIGHT!*

AS LONG AS WE'RE STILL FUNCTIONING, THERE'S STILL *HOPE!*

HEY--*EASY* THERE! LEAVE ME A *LITTLE* SKIN!

YOU'RE *NEXT*, GENERAL!

UH! AT LAST!

THAT'S *ALL RIGHT*, SIR. TAKE IT NICE AND EASY--I KNOW IT'S BEEN *ROUGH*.

THE LEADER'S ALREADY MADE HIS *FIRST* MISTAKE. HE WAS *ARROGANT* ENOUGH TO THINK WE POSED NO *THREAT* TO HIM.

THE QUESTION *NOW* IS WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE!

THERE HARDLY SEEMS TO BE ANY *CHOICE*. YOU HAVE TO BECOME THE *HULK* AGAIN.

I-I'M AFRAID HE'S *RIGHT*, SON.

WHAT?! ARE YOU BOTH OUT OF YOUR *MINDS?*

DO YOU HAVE ANY *IDEA* THE KIND OF *HELL* MY LIFE HAS BEEN BECAUSE OF THAT BIG GREEN BEAST?

ME BECOME THE *HULK*?! *NO WAY!*

THERE HAS TO BE A *SANER* METHOD OF DEALING WITH THAT HIGH-DOMED LITTLE HITLER!

SEE IF YOU CAN *THINK* OF ONE, WHILE I TRY TO *ROUSE* McCRAKEN!

SPAD? *C'MON,* McCRAKEN--YOU CAN *DO* IT! *CONCENTRATE!*

FORGET IT, BANNER! YOUR FRIEND IS EVEN *MORE ENTRANCED* THAN THE *REST* OF THE BASE!

LOOK, BRUCE--THE *HULK* IS OUR *ONLY HOPE!* ONLY *HE* IS SIMPLE-MINDED ENOUGH AND *STRONG* ENOUGH TO RESIST THE LEADER'S *MENTAL POWERS.*

SON... GOD ONLY KNOWS WHAT THE LEADER'S PLANS ENTAIL! THE WHOLE *WORLD* COULD END UP LIKE POOR McCRAKEN!

ALL *RIGHT!* YOU'VE MADE YOUR *POINT!*

I'LL *GIVE* YOU YOUR HULK!

BUT WE'LL DO IT *MY* WAY--*UNDERSTAND?*

MEANWHILE, ON THE MAIN AIRSTRIP OF GAMMA BASE, A STUB-WINGED SILVER NEEDLE OF A JET IS TOUCHING DOWN...

LOOK ALIVE, WORLD! OL' BR'ER CLAY IS BACK!

THUNDERBOLT ROSS WILL FLIP HIS STARS WHEN I TELL HIM THAT THE HULK IS STILL ALIVE AND KICKIN'! *

*OFFICIAL SOURCES THOUGHT THAT JADE-JAWS PERISHED IN ISSUE #216 --ARCH.

SHIELD WAS SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE EARLIER NEW YORK SIGHTINGS-- BUT THE ARMY WAS ABLE TO GIVE US POSITIVE VERIFICATION, WHEN THE HULK LANDED IN THE MIDDLE OF... THEIR...

...ARMED MANEUVERS?*

*HULK #222 --A.G.

FOR ONCE CLAY QUARTERMAIN'S RAPIER WIT FAILS HIM. FOR ONCE HIS FINELY CHISELED JAW DROPS.

BUT THEN, ONE COULD HARDLY BLAME HIM.

WELCOME *HOME*, MR. QUARTERMAIN! I DON'T BELIEVE I'VE EVER HAD THE *PLEASURE!*

WHO?

AM *I*? I AM THE *LEADER*, MR. QUARTERMAIN. YOU MIGHT SAY I'M YOUR NEW *COMMANDING OFFICER.*

OH, YOU NEEDN'T *WORRY* ABOUT *COLONEL FURY'S* OBJECTIONS.

VERY *SOON*, HE WILL BE IN NO *POSITION* TO OBJECT...NOR WILL ANYONE *ELSE!*

BLAST IT! JUST LIKE *THAT*, HE TAKES OVER!

IT MAKES MY BLOOD *BOIL!*

BANNER--*SAMSON!* HOW MUCH *LONGER* ARE YOU GOING TO BE?!

ALMOST *READY*, GENERAL-- THOUGH I WISH *I* COULD BE AS CONFIDENT ABOUT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS *GAMMA CONTROL HARNESS* AS BANNER!

IT'LL WORK, LEONARD, IT *HAS* TO!

ARE YOU *SURE* YOU WANT TO GO THROUGH WITH THIS? IF THAT HARNESS SHOULD *MALFUNCTION--!*

IF IT DOES, I WON'T BE ANY *WORSE* OFF THAN I WAS.

LET 'ER *RIP!*

CLICK!

WHILE IN THE OFFICES OF GENERAL ROSS...

COME NOW, QUARTERMAIN-- LET'S HAVE NO COM-PLAINING! I COULD HAVE HAD YOU CHAINED, AFTER ALL!

I THOUGHT THAT MENTALLY PARA-LYZING YOU FROM THE NECK DOWN WAS MUCH MORE INVENTIVE!

LEADER, YOU CAN TAKE YOUR INVENTIVE-NESS AND--!

ALAS, WE SHALL NEVER HEAR CLAY'S SUGGESTION, FOR AT THAT MOMENT...

WHAT THE DEVIL? AN EARTH-QUAKE?!

RUMMMBLE

BUT IT IS NO MERE EARTH TREMOR WHICH SHAKES THE BUILDING--

--SENDING HUGE CRACKS SPIDER-WEBBING ACROSS THE WALL!

RATHER, IT IS A PAIR OF MIGHTY GREEN PAWS--

GRRGH!

--FOLLOWED CLOSELY BY THE MOST INCREDIBLE MAN-MONSTER OF ALL!

NO! IT CANNOT BE! BANNER COULDN'T HAVE BEEN MAD ENOUGH TO EXPOSE HIMSELF TO GAMMA RAYS AGAIN!

YET THE EVIDENCE OF HIS EYES WOULD SEEM TO BELIE THE LEADER'S CONVICTIONS.

I MUST GET OUT OF HERE! I CAN'T FACE HIM UN-ARMED!

HULK! MAN, I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE GLAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

ROWRR!

THE LUMBERING BRUTE SEEMS TO HARDLY NOTICE THE PROSTRATE FIGURE AS HE STEPS OVER IT.

MY GOD! I--I DON'T BELIEVE IT! HE'S MORE BESTIAL THAN EVER!

AND OUTSIDE...

THE HULK IS RIGHT BEHIND ME! STOP HIM AT ALL COSTS!

CONSIDER THE POWER OF THE LEADER'S MENTAL HOLD. NORMAL SOLDIERS WOULD BE REDUCED TO NEAR PANIC BY THE SIGHT WHICH COMES SMASHING THROUGH THE WALL--

BA-THOOM

--WHEREAS THESE MEN HAVE BUT ONE THOUGHT...

THE HULK MUST BE STOPPED! THE LEADER COMMANDS!

RRGGHH!

BUT THIS EMERALD BEHEMOTH IS ALSO OF ONE MIND--HE MUST GET THE LEADER. AND NOTHING IS GOING TO STOP HIM.

NOT SOLDIERS...NOT SMALL ARMS FIRE...

GRARR!

...NOT EVEN ARMORED MIGHT IS GOING TO STOP THIS HULK!

BOOM

NOTHING CAN STOP THE HULK!

KA-SPLANG!

NOTHING!

FOR IS NOT HULK THE STRONGEST ONE THERE IS?!

ROWRR!

STOP HIM--AT ANY COST!

PILE ON HIM! HE MUSTN'T GET THE LEADER!

FOR ONE BRIEF MOMENT, THE MIGHTY JADE GIANT IS ALMOST LOST AMID THE SEA OF HUMANITY THAT BODILY TRIES TO...

STOP HIM!

FOR THE LEADER!

STOP HIM AT ANY COST!

THE LEADER COM-MANDS!

NO GROUP OF MEN EVER ATTACKED SO ZEALOUSLY--

--OR SO VAINLY.

ALL HUMAN RESISTANCE QUASHED, THIS GREAT GREEN BEAST STRIDES RELENTLESSLY TOWARDS THE LEADER'S ARMORY REFUGE...

BUT BEFORE HE CAN REACH THE BUILDING, THREE STORIES OF STONE, STEEL, AND MASONRY COME CRASHING DOWN...

BEWARE, MONSTER! YOU MAY HAVE STOPPED MY LITTLE PET ARMY, BUT YOU'LL NOT STAND BEFORE THE MIGHT OF THE--

--MURDER MODULE!*

BA-RO

AOOOOMMM

*REMEMBER WHEN THE PROTOTYPE M.M. WAS TESTED IN HULK #123?--ARCH.

HIS ATTENTION DRAWN TO THE BOOMING VOICE FROM OVERHEAD, THE GREEN GOLIATH IS CAUGHT TOTALLY UNAWARES--

--AS THE GLEAMING TITANIUM STEEL LEG CUTS HIM DOWN!

AND, IN THE TOP SECURITY LAB COMPLEX...

GOOD LORD! HE'S TAKEN A HIT!

IF THAT MADMAN SHOULD USE THE MODULE'S FORCE-BEAM--!

NOT TO WORRY, I DON'T INTEND TO GIVE HIM THE CHANCE!

JUST THE SAME, BE CAREFUL, BRUCE!

AND, AS IF IN RESPONSE TO DOC SAMSON'S STRANGE WARNING, THE MAN-MONSTER SEEMS TO MOMENTARILY PAUSE...

RRGHH!

AND THEN, WITH ONE EFFORTLESS MOVE, HE LITERALLY--INEXPLICABLY--ROCKETS INTO THE AIR--

WHOOSH!

--AND ONTO THE MODULE!

NO! IT CAN'T BE!

AND--AND IT ISN'T!

THIS CREATURE ISN'T THE HULK!

IT'S SOME SORT OF CONSTRUCT!

REALIZING THAT HE HAS BEEN DECEIVED, THE LEADER SENDS A MILLION VOLTS OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY RIPPLING OVER THE MODULE'S SURFACE--

--AND THROUGH THE HAMMERING GREEN FIGURE!

TWITCHING SPASMODICALLY, THE CREATURE PLUMETTS TO THE GROUND--

--ERSATZ GREEN SKIN PEELING AWAY TO REVEAL THE TRUE NATURE OF...THE HULK ROBOT! *

*LAST USED BY THE U.S. ARMY WAY BACK IN HULK #132 --ARCHIE.

A ROBOT?! THEY HAD THE AUDACITY TO ATTACK ME WITH A MERE ROBOT?!

ME?!!

HIS HANDS SHAKING WITH RAGE, THE LEADER SENDS THE MODULE'S FORCE-BEAM STABBING DEEP INTO THE ROBOT'S INNARDS--

--INSTANTLY ATOMIZING ITS POWER SOURCE--

--AND CAUSING A HIGH ENERGY FEEDBACK IN THE GAMMA CONTROL HARNESS--THE ROBOT'S MOBILITY GUIDANCE SYSTEM--NOW WORN BY BRUCE BANNER!

YAAHH! SOME-BODY--HELP ME!!

BANNER! OMIGOD-- BANNER!!

THIS DAMNED HARNESS! I WARNED HIM THAT IT WASN'T SAFE!

BRUCE-- SON, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

THE PAIN... CAN'T TAKE... THE...

SAMSON! IS HE--?

LORD ALMIGHTY! HE'S GOING INTO SHOCK! GENERAL--

--BRUCE BANNER IS DYING!

THUS FALL ALL WHO WOULD STAND IN MY WAY!

NEXT: IS THERE HULK AFTER DEATH?

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THE INCREDIBLE HULK®

DEATH TRIUMPHANT!

Caught in the heart of a ***Nuclear Explosion,*** victim of ***Gamma-Radiation*** gone wild, ***Doctor Robert Bruce Banner*** now finds himself transformed in times of stress into seven feet, one thousand pounds of unfettered ***Fury***—the most powerful creature to ever walk the earth—

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE INCREDIBLE HULK!™

IS THERE HULK AFTER DEATH?

BRUCE BANNER HAS BEEN CURED OF BEING THE HULK! NORMALLY, THAT BIT OF NEWS WOULD BE CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION... BUT NOT TODAY.

WE GOT THE EMERGENCY RESPIRATOR ON HIM JUST IN TIME, GENERAL!

BUT, LORD--HIS BREATHING IS STILL SO SHALLOW!

HE'LL PULL THROUGH, MAN. HE'S GOT TO!

ROGER STERN • WRITER

SAL BUSCEMA & JOE RUBINSTEIN ARTISTS

R. PARKER • LETTERER
JAN COHEN • COLORIST

JIM SHOOTER EDITOR

GENERAL ROSS IS OVERLY OPTIMISTIC... FOR AT THIS MOMENT, BRUCE BANNER IS DYING!

C-847

DAMMIT, SAMSON-- SLOW UP A LITTLE! IT'S ALL I CAN DO TO KEEP UP WITH THOSE BIG STRIDES OF YOURS!

SORRY, SIR. IT--IT'S JUST THAT WE HAVE SO LITTLE TIME! IF BANNER SHOULD LAPSE INTO A COMA--

--I... DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT IT! BLAST IT, I WARNED HIM AGAINST USING THAT GAMMA CONTROL HARNESS TO SIC THE HULK BALLISTIC TEST-ROBOT ON THE LEADER! *

* LAST ISSUE--JIM.

DON'T BLAME YOURSELF, MAN! BANNER KNEW THE RISKS-- AND HE TOOK THEM WILLINGLY!

YES, BUT NOW HE'S IN SHOCK, AND THERE'S BARELY ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP HIM!

THE MAN NEEDS A HOSPITAL, GENERAL-- AND BECAUSE OF THE MENTAL BLOCK THE LEADER PLANTED IN MY MIND--

--I CAN'T EVEN CARRY HIM OUT OF THIS BUILDING!

THE BEST TREATMENT I CAN GIVE BRUCE LIES IN THAT LAB AHEAD.

ROSS AT FIRST RESPECTS SAMSON'S STONY SILENCE, AS THE GAMMA BASE STRONGMAN GENTLY CARRIES HIS UNCONSCIOUS BURDEN INTO THE ADJOINING CHAMBER. BUT THEN...

SAMSON, I DON'T UNDERSTAND... HOW CAN THIS LAB BE OF ANY HELP IN SAVING BANNER?

I'M NOT SURE IT WILL BE...

...BUT RIGHT NOW, THE ONLY HOPE WE HAVE OF SAVING THIS MAN'S LIFE... IS TO CHANGE HIM BACK INTO THE HULK!

AND WHILE DOC SAMSON LABORS DESPERATELY OVER BANNER'S INERT FORM-- IN THE GAMMA BASE COMPUTER CENTER, THE LEADER PRESIDES OVER THE GREATEST ANALYSIS SYSTEMS HOOK-UP EVER CONCEIVED BY MAN.!

ALL STATIONS-- REPORT.!

CAL TECH AND M.I.T. COMPUTERS HAVE JUST JOINED THE SYSTEM.

ALL NATO ANALYTIC SYSTEMS ARE NOW UNDER CONTROL. SHIELD SYSTEMS TAKEOVER STANDS AT T-MINUS 48 MINUTES.

ALL I.T.&T. DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL LONG LINES ARE HOLDING ON STAND-BY CONTROL.

ALL NORAD SYSTEMS ARE RESPONDING. WE EXPECT FULL FAIL-SAFE OVERRIDE AT 0350 HOURS.

OMNIVAC?

RE-PORTING SIR. I CONFIRM YOUR GROUND BASE REPORTS. ESTIMATED TIME UNTIL FULL COMPUTER CONTROL IS ONE HOUR, 45 MINUTES, 23 SECONDS.

EXCELLENT.! IN LESS THAN TWO HOURS, I SHALL BE IN TOTAL COMMAND OF ALL THE WORLD'S INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS!

IT IS TIME TO COMMENCE PHASE TWO.

OMNIVAC--YOU MAY BEGIN ELECTROWAVE MATTER TRANSMISSION!

YES, SIR!

AT THE LEADER'S COMMAND, THE ORBITING COMPUTER-SATELLITE ACTIVATES ITS TELEPORT CIRCUITS. THE AIR ABOVE ONE CORNER OF THE ROOM SHIMMERS WITH AN EERIE RADIANCE...

...AND A LONG LINE OF HUMANOIDS COMES MARCHING IN FROM HALF A WORLD AWAY!

PERFECT! TRANSMISSION WAS ACHIEVED IN LESS THAN A TENTH OF A SECOND!

BETWEEN MY HORDES OF INVINCIBLE SYNTHETIC WARRIORS AND THE CONTROL OF THE WORLD'S COMPUTERS, I SHALL HAVE THIS PLANET HELPLESS IN MY GRASP!

BUT AS THE RELATIVE FREEDOM OF THE WORLD MOVES SLOWLY TOWARDS EXTINCTION SAMSON AND ROSS FEVERISHLY BUSY THEMSELVES AT THE CONTROLS OF THE BASE'S MOST INTRICATE GAMMA RAY PROJECTOR...

THANK GOD, HIS BREATHING HAS STABILIZED ENOUGH TO REMOVE THE RESPIRATOR--

--I HOPE THAT'S A GOOD SIGN.

CONFOUND IT, SAMSON! YOU'VE RECHECKED THE CONTROL SETTINGS A DOZEN TIMES-- GET ON WITH IT!

ALL RIGHT, GENERAL. I JUST HOPE THIS *WORKS*...

...FOR *ALL* OF OUR SAKES.

AT THE TOUCH OF SAMSON'S THUMB, THE GAMMA RAY PROJECTOR *SURGES* TO LIFE--

--PUMPING COUNTLESS ROENTGENS OF *RAW ENERGY* INTO THE NEAR-LIFELESS FORM.

UNDER THE FULL FORCE OF THOSE MYSTERIOUS RAYS, DR. BANNER SUDDENLY SITS BOLT UPRIGHT--

--AND *SCREAMS!!*

HE IS STILL SCREAMING WHEN THE RAYS ABRUPTLY CUT OFF. BUT IS THAT EAR-SPLITTING WAIL BORN OF PAIN.. OR OF *MEMORY?*

IN THAT MOMENT, DOES BANNER'S SUBCONSCIOUS REMEMBER HIS *FIRST* AWFUL EXPOSURE TO *GAMMA RAYS?*

WE MAY NEVER KNOW.

SAMSON, WHAT HAPPENED? WHY DIDN'T HE *CHANGE?*

I DON'T *KNOW!* BANNER HAD SAID THAT SOME *UNKNOWN FACTOR* HAD APPARENTLY CHANGED HIS BODY CHEMISTRY... CURING HIM.

AND IF THAT *X-FACTOR* IS STILL IN *EFFECT*...

SAMSON DOES NOT BOTHER TO ELABORATE--HE'S TOO BUSY TRYING TO FIND A HEARTBEAT... A REFLEX...

... THE SMALLEST VITAL SIGN.

LEONARD--?

WE LOST HIM, GENERAL.

BRUCE BANNER... IS DEAD.

OH... MY... GOD.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. I... JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

HE... HE WAS A GOOD MAN, SAMSON. BETTER THAN I EVER GAVE HIM CREDIT--!

PLEASE, GENERAL-- NO EULOGIES. NOT NOW. IT'S TOO LATE FOR WORDS NOW.

YES. I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.

AT LEAST HE WON'T HAVE TO SEE A WORLD UNDER THE RULE OF THE LEADER.

THAT'S THE WAY IT IS... ISN'T IT, SAMSON? WE'RE DEFEATED AREN'T WE?

PERHAPS NOT. PERHAPS THE AVENGERS OR SHIELD WILL STUMBLE ACROSS THE LEADER'S OPERATIONS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

BUT YOU DON'T THINK THAT WILL HAPPEN-- DO YOU, SON?

NO, SIR... I DON'T.

BUT AS THE TIRED OLD SOLDIER AND THE WEARY SCIENTIST TURN AWAY FROM THE LAST MORTAL REMAINS OF DR. BANNER--

--THE FORM BENEATH THE SHROUD SUDDENLY BEGINS TO GROW... TO EXPAND... TO MOVE--

--UNTIL, FINALLY, TWO MASSIVE HANDS REACH OUT, RENDING THE FABRIC TO SHREDS!

AND THE INCREDIBLE HULK LIVES AGAIN!

WHY DO MEN COVER THE HULK IN SHEETS?

Y-YOU'RE ALIVE!

OF COURSE, HULK IS ALIVE!

WHAT IS GOING ON, SAMSON? HOW DID HULK GET HERE?

I... WHY SHOULD I TELL YOU?

SAMSON, HAVE YOU GONE MAD?

STAY OUT OF THIS, ROSS!

YOU HEARD ME, HULK-- WHY SHOULD I TELL YOU? YOU'RE NOT SMART ENOUGH TO REMEMBER ANYTHING FOR MORE THAN A MINUTE!

I SURE HOPE THIS WORKS!

MY MENTAL BLOCK KEEPS ME FROM LEAVING UNDER MY *OWN* POWER, BUT IF I GET THE HULK *MAD* AT ME--!

YOU'RE CALLING HULK *STUPID* ?!

STUPID ?! YOU'RE NOT EVEN *THAT* SMART!

WHA-BOOM!

UNHH! A LITTLE *DRASTIC*, BUT IT WORKED! I ACTUALLY *GOADED* HIM INTO KNOCKING ME OUT OF THE BUILDING!

NOBODY GETS AWAY WITH CALLING HULK STUPID!

HULK...LOOK, I'M *SORRY* I INSULTED YOU! I DIDN'T *MEAN* IT!

YOU EXPECT HULK TO BELIEVE *THAT*? YOU *MUST* THINK HULK IS STUPID!

HULK, *LISTEN* TO ME! THE *LEADER* IS YOUR REAL ENEMY, NOT *ME*!

LEADER?! LEADER IS *DEAD*! *

AND IF YOU KEEP *LYING* TO HULK, *YOU* WILL BE, TOO!

* HULK'S LAST MEMORY OF THE LEADER IS THE RATHER EXPLOSIVE END OF MARVEL FEATURE #12 -- JIM.

AT THAT MOMENT, JUST OUTSIDE AMARILLO, TEXAS...

YOU'VE BEEN STRANGELY *SILENT* THESE LAST FIFTY MILES, JAMES!

YOU'RE NOT ENTERTAINING ANY *SECOND THOUGHTS* ABOUT OUR LITTLE VENTURE, I HOPE.

NAW, KROPOTKIN-- I *STILL* THINK THE WHOLE THING IS *CRAZY!*

BUT I DON'T *MIND*, YA KNOW! ALL I CARE ABOUT IS HITCHIN' BACK UP WITH THE *HULK.*

I'VE JUST GOT A LOTTA THINGS ON MY MIND... *THAT'S* ALL.

LIKE... IF IT'LL EVER BE *SAFE* FOR OL' JIMBO TO GO BACK TO L.A.

TUT-*TUT*, MY BOY-- *TRUST* IN KROPOTKIN, MY PLAN WILL OUT! CHECK THE *MAP*, WILL YOU?

WONDER WHO'S *CRAZIER*--'POTKIN... OR *ME*, FOR GOING ALONG WITH THIS SCHEME OF HIS?

'CORDING TO THE MAP, WE'RE JUST OUTSIDE OF *LYNNBURG.*

AH, *YES*... LYNNBURG! DEFINITELY A PLACE TO *AVOID!* I ONCE HAD AN UNFORTUNATE RUN-IN WITH THE *CONSTABULARY* THERE.

NOT A HOTBED OF TOLERANCE, HUH?

LET ME PUT IT THIS WAY, JAMES... LYNNBURG'S NOT THE END OF THE *WORLD*, BUT YOU CAN *SEE* IT FROM THERE!

BUT NE'ER TO FEAR! A BIT OF ARTFUL *DETOURING*, AND WE'LL *STILL* MAKE ALBUQUERQUE BY SUNDOWN!

AND AS JIM AND KROPOTKIN DRAW EVER CLOSER TO THE NEW MEXICO BORDER--

--DEEP WITHIN THAT 'LAND OF ENCHANTMENT,' THE EMERALD MAN-MONSTER IS A LITTLE LESS THAN ENCHANTED WITH HIS SPARRING PARTNER!

HULK, YOU'VE GOT TO LET ME EXPLAIN!

THE HULK DOESN'T LISTEN TO LIARS!

"BLAST IT, HULK!" CRIES SAMSON, "I'M TELLING THE TRUTH! OUR FIGHTING WILL ONLY SERVE TO WARN THE LEADER!"

INDEED.

OUTPOST FIVE TO LEADER! HAVE SIGHTED THE HULK AND DOC

AND SO, SHORTLY...

WELL, WELL, WELL! COULD THIS BE THE REAL HULK, SAMSON? NO ROBOT THIS TIME, HMMM?

THE LEADER! THEN SAMSON WAS TELLING THE TRUTH!

OH, I'M SURE HE WAS, HULK... NOT THAT IT'LL DO EITHER OF YOU ANY GOOD!

SAMSON! ATTACK THE HULK-- NOW!

UNH! F-FORGET IT, LEADER! YOUR MENTAL BOLTS WON'T WORK THIS TIME!

"YOU MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN THE DROP ON ROSS, AND ME BEFORE-- BUT YOU TOOK US BY SURPRISE THEN! I'M PREPARED TO RESIST YOU NOW!"

VERY WELL, THEN! IF YOU WON'T FIGHT EACH *OTHER*, THEN YOU CAN JUST BATTLE--

--MY ARMY OF *HUMANOIDS!*

ARMY OF... *WHAT?*

SAMSON!

IT IS THE LEADER'S *RUBBER MEN!* HULK HAS FOUGHT THEM BEFORE!

I READ THE REPORT ON ONE OF THOSE BATTLES, HULK! AS I RECALL, THESE CREATURES ARE SUPPOSED TO BE *UNSTOPPABLE*, SO I GUESS THE ONLY THING TO DO IS--

--HIT 'EM! HARD AND FAST!

THOOMM!

WHUMP!!

THE TWO GAMMA-POWERED TITANS WADE INTO THE HUMANOID HORDE, SCATTERING THE SYNTHETIC MEN LIKE TEN-PINS...

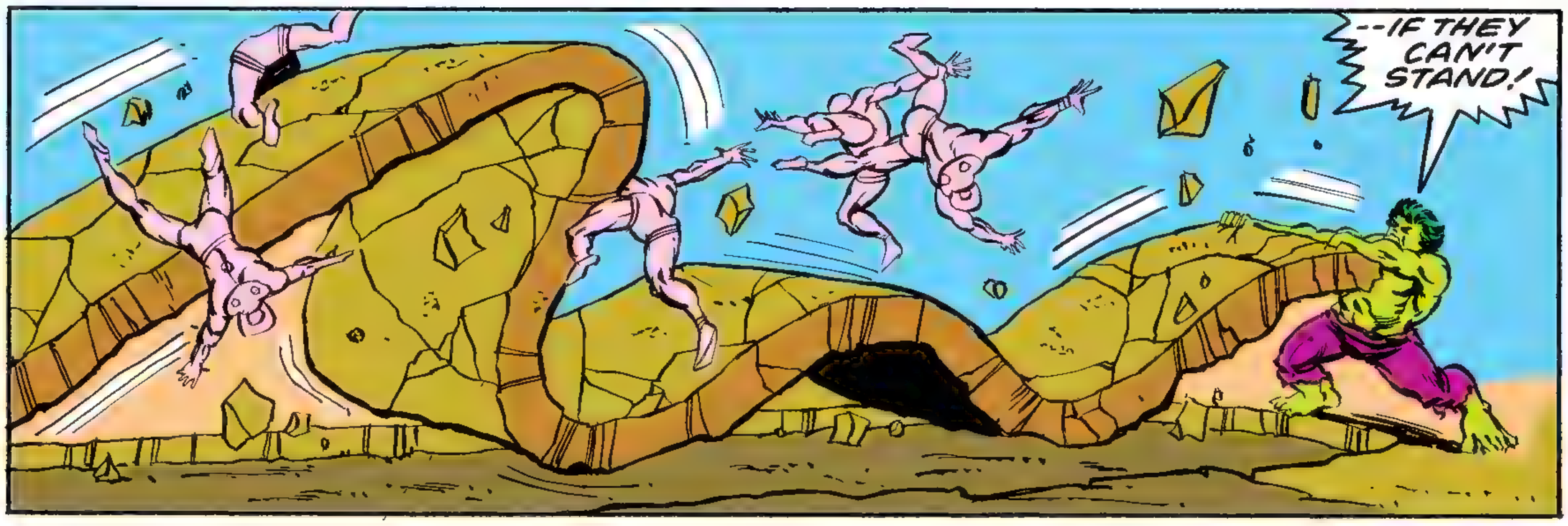
BAH! THE RUBBER-MEN ARE AS STUPID AS EVER!

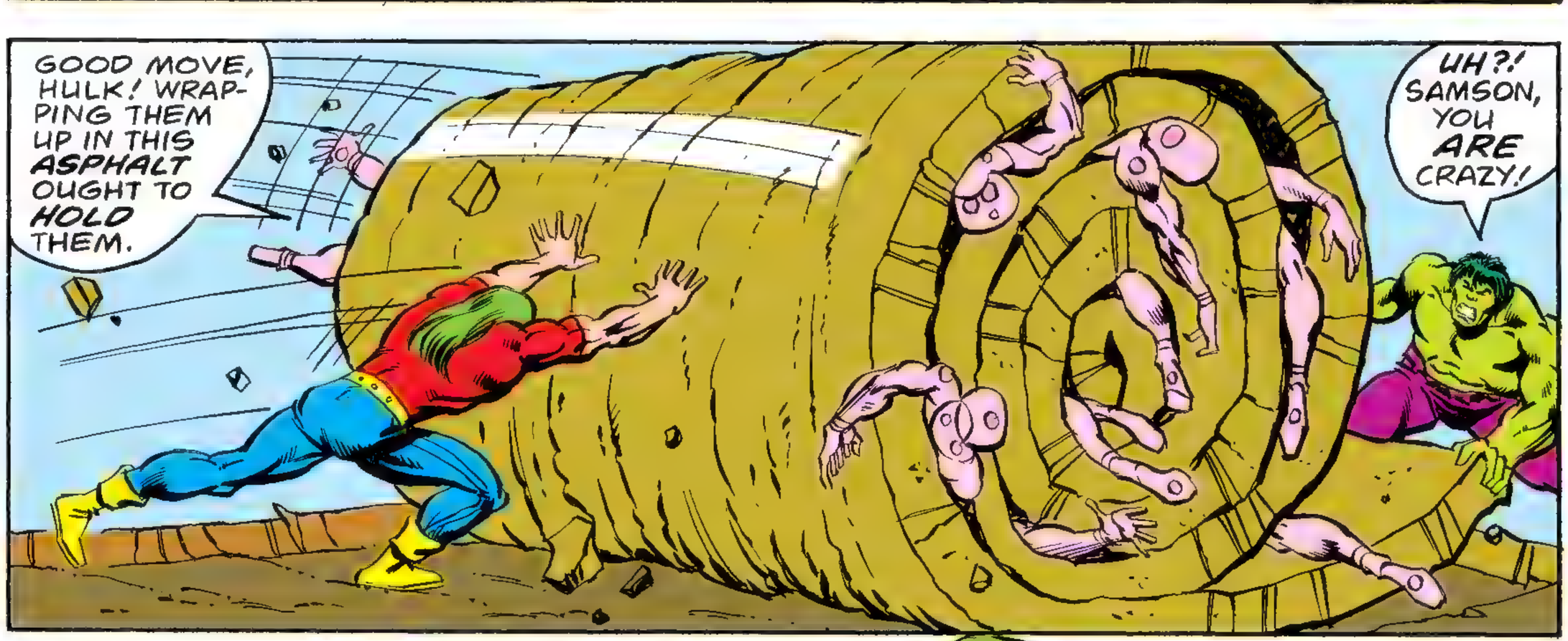
THEY DON'T HAVE THE SENSE TO STAY SMASHED WHEN HULK SMASHES THEM!

A POINT WELL TAKEN, HULK! WHILE WE WASTE OUR TIME WITH THESE STOOGES, THE LEADER IS UP TO GOD KNOWS WHAT!

THUD

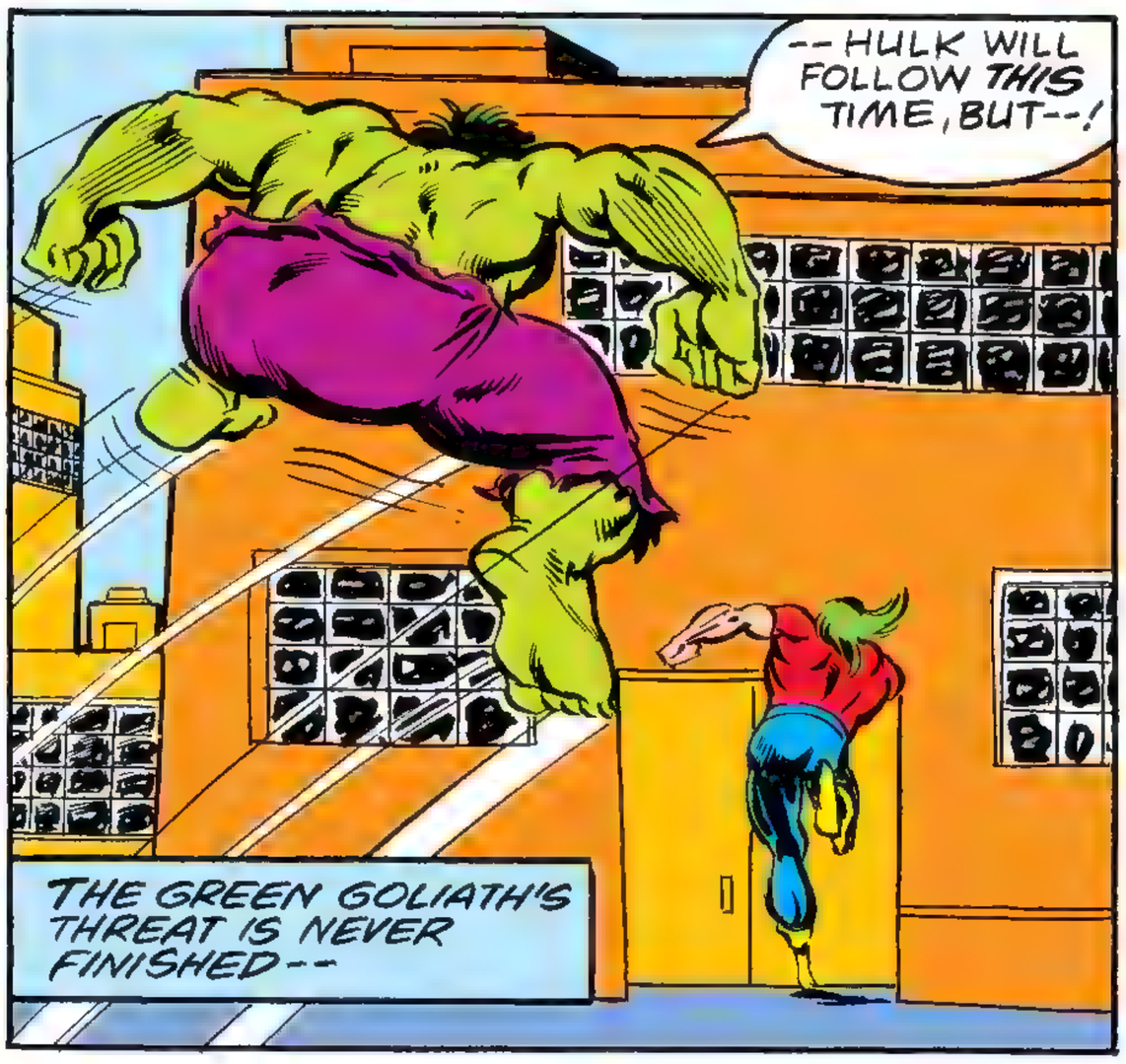
THEN HULK WILL STOP THESE RUBBER-MEN... FOR GOOD! THEY CAN'T FIGHT--


--IF THEY CAN'T STAND!


GOOD MOVE, HULK! WRAPPING THEM UP IN THIS ASPHALT OUGHT TO HOLD THEM.
UH?! SAMSON, YOU ARE CRAZY!

FIRST YOU INSULT HULK, AND THEN YOU HELP HIM!
I TOLD YOU I WAS SORRY, HULK! YOU SEE... WELL, I HAD TO GET YOU TO THROW ME OUT OF THAT BUILDING, SO...
SO YOU TRICKED HULK!
LOOK, HULK--WE CAN SETTLE OUR DIFFERENCES LATER!

RIGHT NOW, THE IMPORTANT THING IS STOPPING THE LEADER! COME ON--
--HIS HUMANOIDS CAME FROM THE COMPUTING CENTER!
VERY WELL--


--HULK WILL FOLLOW THIS TIME, BUT--!
THE GREEN GOLIATH'S THREAT IS NEVER FINISHED--

-- AS IN THE NEXT MOMENT, HE AND SAMSON ENTER THE COMPUTING CENTER-- EACH IN HIS OWN INIMITABLE MANNER!

KRA-THAM

WELCOME, GENTLEMEN-- I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU!

LEADER, YOU STAY RIGHT THERE! IT'LL BE A PLEASURE TO... TO...

SAMSON-- WHAT IS WRONG?

F-FORGIVE ME, HULK... BUT... I CAN'T...FIGHT THE LEADER.

HA-HA-HA! YOU MAY RESIST MY MENTAL BOLTS, NOW, SAMSON--

--BUT YOU CAN'T IGNORE THE BLOCKS ALREADY IN YOUR MIND!

IF SAMSON WILL NOT HELP HULK, THEN HULK WILL SMASH LEADER ALONE! HULK DOESN'T NEED ANY HELP!

HULK DOESN'T NEED ANYBODY!

REALLY? WELL, THEN-- SINCE MY FATE IS SO PREDETERMINED, I MIGHT AS WELL STAND HERE AND TAKE MY MEDICINE... MMM...? MMM...?

LEADER, YOU TALK TOO MUCH!

WHOUFF

WHY, WHATEVER IS THE MATTER, HULK? ARE YOU SURPRISED TO FIND YOUR STRENGTH REFLECTED BACK AT YOU?

IF YOU THINK YOUR STUPID GLOVES--!

UNNHH

AH, I DO INDEED HULK!

YOUR BRUTE POWER IS AS NOTHING COMPARED TO THE PRODUCTS OF MY MIND!

HULK WILL RAM THOSE WORDS DOWN YOUR THROAT, LEADER!

I'M AFRAID NOT, MONSTER! MY KINETRON MITTS ACTUALLY REFLECT THE KINETIC ENERGY OF YOUR BLOWS BACK AT YOU!

I SHALL BEAT YOU WITH YOUR OWN POWER!

NO! NOTHING CAN BEAT THE HULK!

NOTHING!

WELL, YOU ARE WELCOME TO TEST YOUR THEORY, YOU WITLESS GARGOYLE! IT WILL PLEASE ME NO END TO PROVE YOU WRONG!

FOR ONE... TWO... THREE MINUTES THE HULK IS ACTUALLY HELD AT BAY BY THE FORCE OF HIS OWN POWER-- EVERY MUSCLE IN HIS BODY STRAINING TO GRASP THE SHINY METAL MITTS.

HA HA HA

THIS IS INDEED THE LEADER'S GREATEST MOMENT. HE HAS PHYSICALLY STOPPED THE HULK!

HA HAH HA

UNFORTUNATELY, HE HAS FAILED TO RECALL A FAIRLY WELL-KNOWN FACT: THE MADDER THE HULK GETS, THE STRONGER HE GETS!"

HAH?

AND WHEN IT COMES TO ANGER, THE HULK KNOWS NO LIMITS!

NO, IT... IS IMPOSSIBLE.

WHERE IS YOUR POWER NOW, LEADER? TELL HULK AGAIN HOW YOU WILL DEFEAT HIM--

--SO HULK WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO LAUGH!

ARGGHH!! MY HANDS!!

AND NOW THAT HULK HAS TAKEN CARE OF YOUR PUNY GLOVES--

--HULK WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU!

OH, NO.

OMNIVAC! BEAM ME OUT OF HERE!

BUT SIR--!

NO BUTS! DO AS I SAY!

AS YOU WISH, SIR! BUT YOU SHOULD BE WARNED THAT YOUR ENERGY PACK IS STILL DISCHARGING!

IT COULD CAUSE THE TRANSPORT CIRCUITS TO--

"-- SHORT OUT!"

YAAAAAAA

MY GOD! HE'S TOTALLY DISINTEGRATED!

THAT MEANS THAT HULK HAS FINALLY BEATEN THE LEADER!

AND NOW, SAMSON-- HULK WILL SMASH YOU!

SAMSON FREEZES IN MID-TURN-- SURPRISED THAT THE MAN-MONSTER HAS REMEMBERED HIS GRUDGE. HE REALLY DID THINK THE HULK WAS STUPID.

HE WAS WRONG... DEAD WRONG!

NEXT BIG MONSTER ON CAMPUS!

INCREDIBLE HULK®

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THE INCREDIBLE HULK®

BIG MONSTER ON CAMPUS!

ERNIE CHAN 1978

Caught in the heart of a ***Nuclear Explosion,*** victim of ***Gamma-Radiation*** gone wild, ***Doctor Robert Bruce Banner*** now finds himself transformed in times of stress into seven feet, one thousand pounds of unfettered *Fury*—the most powerful creature to ever walk the earth—

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE INCREDIBLE HULK!®

BIG MONSTER ON CAMPUS!

MOVE OUT, YUH LAZY 6!!#6!! SOMETHIN' IS TEARIN' APART THE ***COMPUTIN' CENTER,*** AN' YER JUST STANDIN' THERE WITH YER JAWS HANGIN' OPEN!

WHATTA YUH WAITIN' FOR-- AN ENGRAVED ***INVITATION?!***

U.S. ARMY

ROGER STERN WRITER * SAL BUSCEMA JOE SINNOTT ARTISTS

I.WATANABE- LETTERER * BOB HALL EDITOR * JIM SHOOTER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
JAN COHEN- COLORIST

C879

THE GAMMA BASE COMPUTING CENTER: ONLY MOMENTS AGO, THIS WAS THE NERVE CENTER OF THE DEADLY LEADER'S LATEST SCHEME FOR WORLD CONQUEST.

BUT THAT WAS BEFORE THE LEADER MET A FINAL, LASTING DEFEAT AT THE HANDS OF THE HULK!*

WHA-

BOOM!

NOW, THE CENTER IS THE SCENE OF A TRULY AWESOME BARE-HANDS BATTLE BETWEEN THE GREEN-SKINNED BRUTE AND THE MAN WHO DARED TO INSULT HIM--

--THE PSYCHIATRIST STRONGMAN... DOC SAMSON!

*LAST ISSUE--BOB.

GET UP, SAMSON! HULK IS NOT FINISHED WITH YOU YET!

YOU'LL REGRET THAT YOU EVER CALLED THE HULK STUPID!

HULK, I ALREADY EXPLAINED THAT I DIDN'T MEAN IT! AS A MATTER OF FACT, YOU'VE SURPRISED ME WITH THE INTELLIGENCE YOU'VE SHOWN TODAY!

YOU'RE LYING, SAMSON!

ALL RIGHT, SO DON'T BELIEVE ME--

¡WHUFF!

--BUT DON'T EXPECT ME JUST TO LIE BACK AND LET YOU POUND ME INTO THE GROUND!

CRIPES, WILLYA LOOK AT THAT?! SAMSON KICKED 'IM HALFWAY THROUGH THAT WALL, AND HE'S ALREADY BACK ON HIS FEET!

WELL, DON'T JUST STAND THERE, YUH IDJIT--

KA-BLANG!

--PREPARE TO DEPLOY **TRANC-GAS GRENADES!**

UNH? SOLDIERS **AGAIN?** MUST HULK SMASH **YOU,** TOO?!

YOU **HEARD** 'IM, BOYS--HE'S IN NO MOOD TO BE **POLITE!**

"SO LET 'IM HAVE IT!!"

POOOSH!

HAH! THAT OUGHTA PUT 'IM AWAY! WE GAVE 'IM ENOUGH **T-GAS** TO KNOCK OUT A HERD OF **ELEPHANTS!**

UNFORTUNATELY, TRANQUILIZING GAS ONLY EFFECTS THOSE WHO **BREATHE IT.**

AND AS THE THICK VAPORS DISPERSE, IT BECOMES ALL **TOO CLEAR** THAT THE HULK HAS BEEN **HOLDING HIS BREATH!**

HE IS NOT HAPPY ABOUT THIS LATEST ATTACK ON HIS PERSON--

THOOM

--NOT HAPPY AT ALL!

GENERAL ROSS...*SIR?* ARE YOU *SURE* YOU SHOULD BE GOING IN THERE?

I'VE *GOT* TO, SOLDIER-- FOR *ALL* OUR SAKES!

SCREEECH!

AND NOW, SAMSON-- HULK WILL HAVE *REVENGE!*

HANG ON, LEONARD! DEAR GOD, JUST HANG ON ONE SECOND--

--*MORE!*

CLUNK!

THERE! THAT *ENCEPHALO-HELMET** WILL PUT YOU BACK IN CONTROL OF THE HULK'S BODY, BANNER!

HUH?

*LAST SEEN IN **HULK** #200-- BOB.

ARE YOU *ALL RIGHT,* BANNER? *ANSWER* ME, BLAST IT!

ROSS! WHY DID YOU STICK THIS STUPID *POT* ON HULK'S HEAD?!

HULK HAS HAD *ENOUGH* OF SOLDIERS AND GUNS AND GAS--

--AND *MORE* THAN ENOUGH OF *YOU!*

IT...*DIDN'T* WORK? B-BUT--!

HULK COULD CRUSH YOU LIKE THIS POT, ROSS-- BUT YOU ARE NOT WORTH HULK'S TIME!

NOW...GET OUT OF HULK'S WAY!

NO, HULK! I CAN'T LET--

--UNGGH!

SHUT UP!

HULK DOESN'T HAVE TO LISTEN TO ANY-BODY! HULK JUST WANTS TO BE LEFT ALONE!

AND HULK WILL BE ALONE--IF HULK HAS TO SMASH EVERYONE WHO GETS IN HIS WAY!

HULK, PLEASE...DON'T GO! YOU'LL ONLY BE HUNTED AGAIN.

WE'LL HAVE TO COME AFTER YOU!

BAH! JUST TRY TO STOP HULK, SAMSON!

JUST TRY!

AND SO SAYING, THE EMERALD BEHEMOTH EXITS GAMMA BASE AS ONLY HE CAN...

BOOM

SOME TIME LATER, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF **TECUMCARI, NEW MEXICO...**

GAS

L+W CLAMBURGERS

L + W CLAMBURGER DRIVE - IN

EGAD, JAMES--

--I FIND IT INCOMPREHENSIBLE THAT YOU CANNOT RECOGNIZE THE SHEER **AMBROSIA** THAT IS THE NOBLE CLAMBURGER!

NOBLE--?! KROPOTKIN, I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU CAN STAND TO BE IN THE SAME **STATE** WITH ONE OF THOSE GUT-BUSTERS!

AH, LAD, IT'S PLAIN TO SEE--!

SHH! WHAT'S **THAT?**

ATTENTION, ALL UNITS! WE HAVE A **HULK ALERT!** REPEAT A **HULK ALERT!**

ALL UNITS IN QUADRANT 4 PROCEED TO **CIVIL DEFENSE** POSITIONS!

THAT'S US, HARRY-- LET'S **MOVE!**

BREEOOOO

HANG ON, 'POTKIN! I'M **FOLLOWIN'** THEM!

NOW **THIS** IS A SWITCH! **ME** PURSUING THE AUTHORITIES!

HERE, M'LAD, LET'S SEE WHAT THE **POLICE BAND** IS SAYING!

SIGHTINGS OUT OF VAUGH INDICATE THE HULK IS HEADED FOR THE NAVAPO AREA. EVAC UNITS **STANDING BY!**

NAVAPO? HEY, **I** KNOW WHERE THAT IS!

HOLD ON TO YOUR **CLAMBURGER,** 'POTKIN! WE'RE TAKIN' A LIL' **SHORT CUT!**

AND, IN THE GAMMA BASE **COMMUNICATIONS CENTER...**

NAVAPO? NOW WHY THE DEVIL WOULD THE HULK BE HEADED **THERE?**

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE **WHY** HE'S HEADED THERE? THE FACT REMAINS THAT HE **IS--**

AND IT'S UP TO **US** TO GET THERE IN TIME TO **STOP** HIM!

NOT **US**, MISTER--**ME!** YOU'RE NOT GOING **ANY-WHERE** UNTIL YOU'VE FULLY RECOVERED FROM THE LEADER'S BRAIN-ZAP!*

JUST **LOOK** AT YOURSELF-- YOU CAN HARDLY **WALK!**

*CLAY QUARTERMAIN WAS **PARALYZED** BY THE LEADER IN ISSUE #224-- BOB.

BESIDES, QUARTERMAIN --WHAT WITH GENERAL ROSS TEMPORARILY IN-CAPACITATED, **I'M** IN CHARGE OF GAMMA BASE!

BUT--!

NO BUTS! GAMMA IS JUST AS MUCH A **CIVILIAN** IN-STALLATION AS IT IS A **MILITARY** ONE! YOUR **SHIELD** RANK DOESN'T MEAN **ANY-THING** TO ME!

LIEUTENANT, HAVE A **VTOL TRANSPORT** READIED, WITH A FULL COMPLEMENT OF MEN ...AND SEE THAT MR. QUARTERMAIN RE-PORTS TO **SICK BAY!**

YES, **SIR!**

NOW, IF YOU'LL **EXCUSE** ME, CLAY-- I HAVE A VERY PRESSING EN-GAGEMENT IN...

"NAVAPO, NEW MEXICO. A MAN-MADE OASIS AMIDST THE BURNING SOUTHWESTERN WASTELANDS. ITS FLOURISHING UNIVERSITY IS A TESTIMONIAL TO MAN'S HUNGER FOR KNOWLEDGE..."

AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS IN THE **DESERT STATE UNIVERSITY CATALOGUE.**

THIS AFTERNOON, HOWEVER, THE NORMALLY **PLACID** D.S.U. CAMPUS IS IN THE MIDST OF A VERY **UNUSUAL** ACTIVITY.

IT'S CALLED--**EVACUATION!**

OH, **RUDY!** DO YOU **REALLY** THINK THERE'S A DANGER?

I **DUNNO,** CHERYL-- BUT WHERE THE HULK'S CONCERNED, I'M NOT TAKING **ANY CHANCES!**

THERE MUST BE AN **EASIER** WAY TO GET OUT OF FINALS!

EH? **DR. WELLER,** DIDN'T YOU GET THE **WORD?** THE WHOLE CAMPUS IS BEING--!

I **HEARD,** DEAN SLATER.

WELL, DON'T JUST **SIT** THERE, MAN! WE'VE GOT GET **OUT OF HERE!**

HARVEY, I WAS HERE DURING THE **DEMONSTRATIONS**--DURING THE TUITION INCREASE **PROTESTS**--DURING THE **MARCHES.**

I DIDN'T LEAVE **THEN,** AND I'M NOT LEAVING **NOW.**

ESPECIALLY WHEN THE THREAT TO CAMPUS IS MY **OWN** BEST STUDENT!

HERBERT JOSIAH WELLER TURNS AWAY FROM HIS DEPARTING COLLEAGUE TO WATCH OVER THE UNIVERSITY HE HELPED FOUND...

...AND AS HE SOLEMNLY STARES OFF INTO THE **SETTING SUN**--

--THE TINIEST OF SPECKS APPEARS OVER THE **HORIZON.**

AT FIRST, THE HURTLING FIGURE SEEMS ALMOST TO BE **FLYING** THROUGH THE **TWILIGHT SKIES.**

BUT AS IT DRAWS CLOSER, IT BECOMES ALL TOO CLEAR THAT THE HUGE **GREEN FORM** IS IN THE DOWNWARD CURVE OF SOME **IMPOSSIBLE LEAP**--

--AND THAT THE **INCREDIBLE HULK** HAS ARRIVED.

PERHAPS **HERE** HULK CAN FIND **PEACE.**

ELSEWHERE, THERE IS **DESERT** ...BUT HERE IT IS GREEN... **FRIENDLY.**

HULK SEEMS TO **KNOW** THIS PLACE. HULK HAS BEEN HERE **BEFORE.**

YES, HULK FOUGHT **CAPTAIN MARVEL** HERE ONCE! *

WAIT! THERE ARE **EARLIER** MEMORIES OF THIS PLACE! HULK **KNOWS** IT!

BUT WHY... **WHY** IS IT SO **HARD** TO REMEMBER?

*CAPTAIN MARVEL #21--BOB.

A TRUE **ROMANTIC** MIGHT CLAIM IT WAS **LOVE** THAT DREW THE HULK TO THIS SHADY GROVE...

MAYBE IF HULK SITS DOWN HERE, IT WILL BE EASIER TO **THINK.**

...FOR WHEN THE **CARVING** ON THE NEARBY TREE CATCHES HIS EYE--

SALLY

--THE JADE GIANT SEEMS TO RECALL AN EARLIER, **HAPPIER** TIME...A TIME WHEN THE LETTERS WERE **NEWLY CARVED...**

SALLY

...AND ONE SPECIAL GIRL WAS VERY, **VERY** CLOSE!

HULK **LOVES** YOU, SALLY!

AND I LOVE **YOU,** TOO--

DSU

--**BRUCE!**

BRUCE?! SALLY, WHAT DO YOU **MEAN?**

DSU

OH, **BRUCE!** I JUST **KNOW** YOU'LL BE A BIG, IMPORTANT SCIENTIST SOME DAY!

WHAT?! PUNY BANNER HAS TAKEN SALLY **AWAY** FROM THE HULK?!

DSU

NO!!

DSU

BAH! IT WAS JUST ONE OF BANNER'S STUPID MEMORIES!

BRUCE?

BRUCE, MY BOY! IT'S ME-- DR. WELLER! I WANT TO HELP YOU, SON!

BRUCE? AGAIN, BRUCE?!

HOW MANY TIMES DOES HULK HAVE TO TELL PEOPLE? HULK IS NOT BRUCE!

HULK IS HULK!

WHOA! IT'S A GOOD THING I DIDN'T WAIT FOR 'POTKIN TO PARK THE VAN!

IT LOOKS LIKE THE HULK IS ABOUT TO TAKE THAT OL' DUDE APART!

WAIT, HULK! DON'T HURT THE MAN-- HE CAN'T DO YA NO HARM!

UNH? JIM?

SO! HAVE YOU COME TO ORDER HULK AROUND SOME MORE, "FRIEND"? LIKE BEFORE?*

GOOD LORD! NO, BRUCE!

:ULP:

*SEE HULK #221-- BOB.

FOR THE *LAST TIME*-- HULK IS *NOT* BRUCE!

NOW *LET GO* OF HULK!

OH!

*HE'S A BRAVE MAN, THIS HERBERT WELLER. BUT A MAN WITH A WEAK *HEART* SHOULD NEVER GO CHASING HULKS.*

:AHK: MY *CHEST*... FEELS LIKE IT'S ON *FIRE!*

WELL, ARE YA *PROUD* OF YOURSELF *NOW*, HULK? YOU'VE HURT A SICK OLD MAN!

SICK? BUT HULK DID NOT *KNOW*.

EH? EVEN *DOG* IS MAD AT HULK?

CAN'T HULK DO *ANY-THING* RIGHT? MUST HULK TURN *ALL* HIS FRIENDS AGAINST HIM?

GRARR!

*BUT AS THE RAGING BEHEMOTH *SMITES* THE GROUND IN *FRUSTRATION*--*

WHUMP!

*--THE TUMBLING FOLIAGE SEEMS TO REVEAL A *NEW FOE.*

WHO?

BUT, HULK DOES NOT *CARE* WHO YOU ARE! YOU ARE *BIG*... BIG ENOUGH FOR HULK TO *FIGHT!!*

BUT AS THE HULK **CLOSES IN** ON THE FOREBODING FIGURE, HE DISCOVERS JUST **WHY** IT STANDS SO BOLD...SO **STILL.**

THE MAN IS OVER TEN FEET TALL. HIS VISAGE IS OF SOLID **GRANITE**... BUT HIS WISDOM IS EVEN **MORE** ENDURING.

ONCE MORE THIS EVENING, THE MEMORIES OF BRUCE BANNER'S COLLEGE CAREER **INTRUDE** ON THE HULK'S CONSCIOUSNESS--

--AND THE **WORDS** OF THIS STONE MAN, LEARNED SO MANY YEARS AGO, SEEM TO **ECHO** IN THE NIGHT...

"KNOW THYSELF."

SOCRATES

KNOW THYSELF

SLOWLY, **EVER** SO SLOWLY, THE **MEANING** OF THE WORDS SEEPS INTO THE **MUDDLED MIND** OF THE MAN-BRUTE.

AND FROM ACROSS THE CENTURIES, THE **ECHO** CONTINUES:

"KNOW THYSELF."

STOP.

DOC... WHAT'S GOIN' **ON?**

I DON'T **KNOW.** I'M ...ALMOST **AFRAID** TO GUESS.

"KNOW THYSELF."

STOP!

DO YOU **HEAR** HULK? **STOP!**

OR HULK WILL MAKE YOU STOP!

KRA-THAM!

BUT **NOTHING** CAN EVER DESTROY **TRUE WISDOM**...NOT STRENGTH OF LIMB, NOR MINDLESS **IGNOR-ANCE.**

NO, NOT EVEN **HEMLOCK.**

NOW...NOW YOU WILL STOP TORMENTING THE HULK!

BUT AS THE HULK REACHES FOR THE HEAD OF SOCRATES, ITS EYES SEEM TO BORE INTO HIS VERY SOUL...

SOCRATES

KNOW THYSELF

...AND ITS CHALLENGE ECHOES ON...

"KNOW THYSELF, HULK. KNOW THYSELF!"

BUT...HOW CAN HULK KNOW THE HULK?

HOW?

HOW?

HOW CAN I EVER KNOW WHO THE HULK IS?

DEAR LORD, I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHO BRUCE BANNER IS ANYMORE!

BRUCE...

EH?

IF YOU'LL JUST PUT A LITTLE TRUST IN ME, MAYBE WE CAN FIND OUT WHO BOTH OF YOU ARE.

NEXT

DOC SAMSON DABBLES IN SOME VERY ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY AS...

THE MONSTER'S ANALYST!

YOU'VE GOT TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT!

INCREDIBLE HULK®

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THE MONSTER'S ANALYST

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN DR. LEONARD SAMSON WAS ONE OF THE MOST RENOWNED **PSYCHIATRIC RESEARCHERS** IN THE WESTERN WORLD.

THAT, OF COURSE, WAS **BEFORE** HIS EXPERIMENTS WITH LIBIDINAL ENERGY AND CONTROLLED GAMMA RADIATION **TRANSFORMED** HIM INTO THE EMERALD-HAIRED STRONGMAN KNOWN AS **DOC SAMSON.**

THIS AFTERNOON, LEONARD SAMSON **RETURNS** TO HIS FIRST VOCATION.

JUST REMAIN **CALM,** HULK. THE IMPORTANT THING TO REMEMBER IS THAT WE ARE ALL YOUR **FRIENDS**--

--AND WE ALL WANT TO **HELP** YOU.

WRITTEN BY **ROGER STERN** (WITH AN ASSIST FROM PETER GILLIS) * ILLUSTRATED BY **SAL BUSCEMA** and **KLAUS JANSON** * lettered by JOHN COSTANZA colored by GLYNIS WEIN * SUPERVISED BY **BOB HALL,** EDITOR & **JIM SHOOTER,** EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

C980

WHEN SAMSON FIRST ORDERED A STEEL-REINFORCED PSYCHIATRIST'S COUCH TO BE BUILT AT THE BOTTOM OF A GAMMA-BASE **RADIATION STUDY CHAMBER**, THE TECHNOS THOUGHT HE WAS CRAZY.

EVEN NOW, THEY'RE NOT SO **SURE**...

PLEASE, HULK! IF THIS IS GOING TO WORK, YOU'VE GOT TO **RELAX.**

JUST LIE BACK... **BREATHE DEEPLY**... AND TELL ME THE FIRST THING YOU THINK OF.

HULK **KNOWS** HOW TO BREATHE.

MAN, I **NEVER** THOUGHT I'D SEE THE HULK ON THE COUCH! I JUST HOPE IT DOES HIM SOME **GOOD.**

ALAS, I FEAR I HAVE LITTLE FAITH IN PSYCHIATRY, JAMES. WHY, YOU'D NOT **BELIEVE** WHAT AN ANALYST ONCE TOLD ME ABOUT MYSELF!

I GOTTA AGREE WITH KROPOTKIN. WHAT'S **SUPER-SHRINK** GOING TO ASK HIM--"HOW LONG HAVE YOU FELT **GREEN?**"

THERE'LL BE LITTLE OF **THAT,** McCRAKEN! WHAT SAMSON'S DOING IS HIGHLY **EXPERIMENTAL**--

--AND VERY **RISKY!** WHAT IT ALL BOILS DOWN TO IS THAT SAMSON IS GOING TO USE ALL THIS HARDWARE TO ENTER THE HULK'S **DREAMS**... PROBE HIS DEEPEST **MEMORIES.**

THAT'S A **BRAVE MAN** DOWN THERE.

I **STILL** CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT! YA KNOW, I HAD THIS THING PEGGED AS A COMPLETE **GOOF** WHEN IT ALL STARTED--

"--BACK THERE AT DESERT STATE UNIVERSITY."

GOODBYE, BRUCE... AND GODSPEED! I ONLY WISH I COULD DO MORE!

YOU'VE ALREADY DONE A GREAT DEAL, DR. WELLER. YOU HELPED TRIGGER THE TRAUMA THAT TURNED BRUCE BACK TO HIMSELF...

...YOU AND SOCRATES!*

*LAST ISSUE--BOB.

AH, BANNER, MY FRIEND! HOW GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN! AND DR. SAMSON, ISN'T IT? KROPOTKIN THE GREAT IS IN YOUR DEBT, SIR!

YOUR MEN ASSISTED ME QUITE WELL IN THE LOADING OF MY PERSONAL VEHICLE!

LEN, ARE YOU SERIOUS? YOU WANT TO ANALYZE THE HULK?

THE HULK ISN'T MINDLESS, BRUCE. HE HAS HOPES, FEARS, LOVES. LOOK, I'VE ALREADY HAD YOU ON THE COUCH.* IF I COULD COMPLETE THE PICTURE WITH THE HULK--

--I COULD CONFRONT HIM WITH HIS OWN HUMANITY...MAKE HIM ACCEPT THE FACT THAT YOU AND HE ARE ONE!

BUT YOU'D NEED A CALM HULK FOR THAT. HOW DO YOU HOPE TO GET PAST HIS NEVER-ENDING RAGE?

*HULK #141--BOB.

THIS IS A CALIBRATED DOSE OF GAMMA-EPINEPHRINE, BRUCE. IN EFFECT, IT'S A CHEMICAL SUBSTITUTE FOR RAGE.

I SEE! IT SHOULD SPEED UP MY BODY CHEMISTRY ENOUGH TO TRIGGER THE CHANGE...BUT NO MORE.

EXACTLY! I'LL HAVE MY CALM HULK TO WORK WITH.

ALL I'LL HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT IS KEEPING HIM CALM.

THAT JOB'S HARDER THAN IT SOUNDS! GOOD LUCK, LEN!

GOOD LUCK TO US *BOTH*, BRUCE. IF THIS *WORKS*, IT'LL BE AS GOOD AS A *CURE*.

YOUR MIND WILL BE IN CONTROL AT *ALL TIMES*--

--AND NO ONE WILL *EVER* NEED FEAR THE HULK AGAIN.

AH, GOOD MORNING, HULK. WE'RE *VERY* GLAD TO HAVE YOU WITH US!

EH?

NOW THAT THE *PRELIMINARIES* ARE OVER, WE CAN START THE HARD PART.

THIS IS CALLED A *REM-INTEGRATOR*, HULK. IT *WON'T* HURT YOU. IN FACT, IT CAN BE VERY *PLEASURABLE*.

BAH! METAL BAND... IS... COLD.

WITHIN SECONDS, A STEADY PULSE OF ALPHA WAVES FROM THE HEADSET HAVE LULLED THE MAN-MONSTER INTO A DEEP, DREAMING SLEEP.

PLEASANT DREAMS, HULK. I'LL BE WITH YOU IN A *MOMENT*.

AN IMAGE SHOULD BE FORMING SOON--!

INSTANTANEOUSLY, THE ROOM, THE MACHINES AND EVERYTHING ELSE AROUND THEM VANISHES--

--AND THEY ARE SUDDENLY IN A VERY DIFFERENT PLACE...

...A PLACE OF THE MIND.

HULK KNOWS THIS PLACE. IT IS...IMPORTANT TO HULK.

THIS IS INCREDIBLE! I NEVER IMAGINED THAT THE MENTAL IMPRESSIONS OF THE HULK'S PAST COULD BE SO...REAL.

OVER THERE... IT'S OVER THERE!

I'VE READ THAT PRIMITIVE PEOPLES THINK THEIR DREAMS ARE JUST AS REAL AS THEIR CONSCIOUS EXISTENCE, BUT THIS--!

YES! HULK KNOWS THAT HOUSE!

WHAT IS IT, HULK? WHAT DO YOU SEE IN THE HOUSE?

THE HULK SEES--

--A BABY.

THE CHILD'S WORLD IS BIG AND BRIGHT, AND FILLED WITH MANY NEW THINGS...

...BECKONING SIGHTS AND MERRY SOUNDS ...AND WONDER! THE WORLD OFFERS ITSELF TO THE CHILD.

HSSS

AND THE WORLD BURNS!

WAAAH

ARRGGH! BURNS!

HULK! WHAT IS IT?!

IT IS THE HOUSE! IT BURNS HULK...HURTS HULK! HULK MUST SMASH IT!

HULK... NO!

HULK HATES THIS HOUSE!

I SHOULD HAVE ANTICIPATED THIS! HE'S ACTING OUT HIS DEEPEST WISHES IN THIS DREAM WORLD.

BUT WHY THE *PAIN?* WHY--?

THAT *NAMEPLATE!* GOOD LORD, THAT CHILD WAS *BRUCE BANNER!*

BANNER

BARELY DOES THAT REALIZATION SINK IN BEFORE--

--*SUDDENLY* THEY ARE *ELSEWHERE!*

BRUCE BANNER AGAIN. THIS MUST BE HIS *HIGH SCHOOL*... BUT WHY IS THE HULK REMEMBERING *THIS?* WHAT CAN THE *CONNECTION* BE?

OH, *GEEZ!* DO I ADD THE WATER TO THE *ACID,* OR THE ACID TO THE *WATER?*

I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT THAT DARNED BOOK SAID. MAYBE IF I JUST TRY A LITTLE OF *THIS*--!

FOOSH

YIKES!

FEAR STABS AT YOUNG BRUCE'S HEART--

--A FEAR THAT THE HULK MIRRORS *UNCANNILY!*

BANNER, YOU ARE THE STUPIDEST, MOST *CARELESS* CLOTHEAD EVER TO INFEST MY CLASS!

B-B-BUT, MR. WOODMAN--!

SHUT UP, MR. WOODMAN!

SHUT UP!

KA

WOOM

KA-WOOM

EVERYBODY GET BACK... QUICK!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! WHAT'S GOT IN TO SAMSON, TO MAKE HIM DO A THING LIKE THAT, CLAY?

I MEAN, I'VE HEARD OF SLEEP-WALKING, BUT--!

"I'M NO EXPERT, JIM, BUT FROM THE WAY DOC IS HUNCHED OVER AND LUMBERING AROUND DOWN THERE--

"--I'D SAY HE'S ACTING OUT THE HULK'S DREAMS. THE REM-HELMET MUST INTENSIFY THE IMAGES... AND FEED THEM BACK!"

"OH, MAN! IF HIS DREAMS DO THAT, WHAT ARE HIS NIGHT-MARES LIKE?"

HULK IS TIRED OF SCHOOL! THIS IS WHERE HULK WANTS TO BE!

HERE?! JUST WHERE IS HERE, HULK?

WHERE?! THIS IS DESERT!

HUHH! AND PEOPLE SAY HULK IS STUPID!

LORD ALMIGHTY...IT'S THE GAMMA BOMB *TEST SITE!*

YES...*THIS* IS THE PLACE!

THIS IS WHERE THE HULK BE-CAME *FREE!*

FREE? I DON'T UNDER-STAND, *UNLESS--*

--MY THEORY ABOUT THE HULK'S PERSONA IS --EH?

THAT KID IN THE *JALOPY*...HE MUST BE *RICK JONES!*

IF ONLY THIS WERE *TRULY* REAL! IF ONLY I COULD *WARN* YOU OF WHAT IS TO COME!

HEY, IT'S AS REAL AS YOU *MAKE* IT, DOC! AND ALL YOUR YAKKIN' WON'T CHANGE IT ONE *BIT!*

WHAT?! YOU CAN *SEE* ME?

YOU! GET OUT OF THERE! YOU'RE IN A FORBIDDEN TEST AREA!

COOL IT, MAN! THE KIDS BET ME I WOULDN'T HAVE NERVE ENOUGH TO SNEAK PAST THE GUARDS.

SORRY FOR THE *INTERRUPTION*, MUSCLES--BUT EVERY-BODY'S GOT TO READ THEIR *LINES*, YA DIG?

IT...IT'S LIKE SOME INSANE *MELODRAMA.*

LISTEN, DOC, DON'T COMPLAIN TO *ME!* IT'S YOUR *HEAD* THAT IT'S FILTERIN' THROUGH!

COME ON, YOU FOOL! WE'VE GOT TO REACH THE PROTECTIVE TRENCH BEFORE THE BOMB GOES OFF!

RICK--

--CAN'T YOU DO ANY-THING...*ANYTHING?!*

SORRY, DOC! LIFE IS BUT A *DREAM*, SHA-BOOM!

GOTTA SPLIT NOW! I'VE GOT A DATE WITH A *BIRTH TRAUMA!*

*FOR A MOMENT, LEONARD SAMSON STANDS MUTE BEFORE THE **INSANITY** OF IT ALL, REMEMBERING **TOO LATE** THE ANALYST'S CARDINAL RULE:*

"NEVER GET TOO INVOLVED WITH A PATIENT!"

*AND THEN, HIS WORLD, THE HULK'S WORLD, AND THE GAMMA BOMB SIMULTANEOUSLY **EXPLODE!***

*AS HE PICKS HIMSELF UP OUT OF THE SAND, DOC SAMSON KNOWS HE HAS SLIPPED **BADLY** IN THIS CASE.*

I *MUST*... REGAIN CONTROL BEFORE IT'S...

...TOO LATE.

AT *LAST!* HULK HAS PUNY BANNER WHERE HE AL-WAYS *WANTED* HIM!

NOW HULK WILL SMASH!

I CAN'T LET YOU DO THAT, HULK! I'M THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS!

LEAVE US *ALONE*, RICK! YOU *CANNOT* STOP THE HULK!

MAYBE *HE* CAN'T, HULK, BUT *WE* CAN--AND WE *WILL!*

WHO?

THE *WASP*...

...AND *ANT-MAN!*

GIANT-MAN...

...AND THE MIGHTY *THOR*.

NOT TO MENTION THE *OLD* IRON MAN...

...AND THE *NEW!* IN OTHER WORDS, UGLY...THE *AVENGERS!*

WE HAVE *ALWAYS* STOPPED YOU, MONSTER--

--AND WE ALWAYS *SHALL!*

WE ARE *SMART*--LIKE BANNER! AND IN OUR WISDOM, THERE IS *STRENGTH!*

MORE STRENGTH THAN YOU MAY *EVER* POSSESS!

BAH! YOU ARE NOT STRONG, YELLOW-HAIR!

IT IS YOUR *HAMMER* THAT IS STRONG!

BUT *NO* PUNY HAMMER IS STRONGER THAN THE *HULK!*

SKRUNCH

I... CAN'T BELIEVE THIS.

HAH! WITHOUT THE HAMMER, YOU ARE *NOTHING!* - -

*THE THUNDER GOD IS LIKE A **LIMP RAG** IN SAMSON'S ARMS. THERE IS NO SIGN THAT THE BODY **EVER** HELD LIFE.*

THIS IS *MAD-NESS.*

WITH EVERY BLOW, EVERY *VICTORY,* WE SLIP FURTHER AWAY FROM REALITY!

IF I DON'T *STOP* HIM, WE'LL *NEVER* GET BACK!

WITH A SPEED BORN OF **DESPERATION**, SAMSON RACES FOR THE RAMPAGING BEHEMOTH. BEFORE HE CAN EVEN GET **CLOSE**, TWO IRON MEN SHATTER LIKE **EMPTY SHELLS**.

TO THE **HULK**, THAT'S ALL THEY **EVER** WERE.

HULK, **STOP!** THIS ISN'T **REAL!** YOU'VE GOT TO LISTEN--!

BLAST IT, HULK-- **LISTEN TO ME!**

THAT'S **IT**, FELLA! HOLD HIM SO WE CAN **FINISH HIM OFF!**

YOU **GOT** HIM, HIGH-POCKETS! NOW IT'S **MY** TURN!

MY ANTS WILL DRAG HIM OFF SO FAR, HE'LL **NEVER** FIND HIS WAY BACK!

WRONG, LITTLE MAN! YOU WILL DO **NOTHING** TO THE HULK!

IT IS THE *HULK* WHO WILL DO THE FINISHING!

UNNGH!

HAH! THE HULK HAS *WON!*

AVENGERS TRIED TO *KILL* THE HULK, BUT THE HULK *ALWAYS* WINS!

HULK, THAT'S NOT *TRUE!*

THE AVENGERS WEREN'T LIKE *THIS!* HULK, THEY COULD HAVE BEEN YOUR *FRIENDS!*

HULK...HATES FRIENDS.

HATE? BUT *WHY?*

SHUCKS, OL' CRACKAJACK KIN TELL YUH WHY, MISTAH SAMSON--IT'S 'CAUSE WE ALWAYS *DIES!*

THAT IS *RIGHT,* TOVARISCH...

...NO MATTER WHERE WE BE, UNDER THE *SEA...*

...OR DEEP BE-LOW THE GROUND...

...WE *ALWAYS* DIE.

CRACKAJACK? MOGOL? *JARELLA?* HULK DOES NOT WANT YOU TO DIE. HULK *NEEDS* YOU!

DON'T LEAVE HULK... *PLEASE!*

WE MUST, BELOVED. WE *MUST.*

HULK *HATES* DYING! HULK HATES *YOU!* HULK HATES *EVERYTHING!*

THAT'S IT, YOU STUPID BRUTE! GO AHEAD AND *HATE!*

BUT YOU'D BETTER *SAVE* SOME HATE FOR *YOURSELF!* YOU ARE THE *CAUSE* OF THIS AGONY!

BANNER!

YES, MONSTER--YOU KNOW ME, *DON'T* YOU? I'M EVERYTHING THAT OPPOSES YOU! I'M LOGIC, THOUGHT, AND ORDER--

--AND IF YOU DON'T KILL *ME*, THEN I'LL KILL *YOU!*

YES.

BANNER!

IN THE NAME OF SANITY, *DON'T!* YOU MUST COME TO TERMS--!

THERE ARE NO TERMS!

IN ONE FINAL ANNIHILATING INSTANT, LEONARD SAMSON WITNESSES THE STATED GOAL OF HIS PSYCHO-THERAPY--

--AS BANNER AND THE HULK MOVE AS ONE--AND END THEIR SEPARATION!

THE OUTCOME WASN'T QUITE WHAT HE'D HAD IN MIND.

SAMSON, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? WE CUT THE POWER, BUT YOU KEPT ON SWINGING UNTIL THE MACHINE WAS SMASHED!

HOW'S THE HULK? WILL HE--?

I FAILED, JIM. THERE WAS SO MUCH I DIDN'T KNOW... SO MUCH I NEVER REALIZED.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

BANNER AND THE HULK ARE NOT JUST TWO SIDES OF ONE MIND... THEY ARE ACTUALLY TWO SEPARATE BEINGS.

THEY'RE OPPOSITES AT WAR--BANNER'S INTELLIGENCE AND REASON CONSTANTLY FIGHTING THE PERSONIFIED IGNORANCE OF THE HULK.

THE POOR BEAST IS LIKE A SMALL CHILD WHO HAS BEEN GIVEN UNLIMITED POWER. I DON'T KNOW IF WE CAN EVER--!

DR. SAMSON! IT'S A DISASTER! LOOK!

WHAT'S WRONG, SAMSON? YOU LOOK LIKE--!

OH MY GOD! WE MISCALCULATED THE DOSAGE OF GAMMA-EPINEPHRINE WE GAVE BANNER.

CLAY, HE'LL REMAIN THE HULK FOR AT LEAST A WEEK!

NEXT BAD MOON ON THE RISE!

HULK ANNUAL

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"THE EVIL THAT IS CAST..."

GOOD EVENING!

WORD COMES TONIGHT FROM NEW MEXICO'S *GAMMA BASE* THAT DR. ROBERT BRUCE BANNER--BETTER KNOWN AS THE *INCREDIBLE HULK*--HAS TURNED HIMSELF IN TO AUTHORITIES FOR *TREATMENT*.

HERE NOW WITH THAT *LIVE REPORT* IS CORRESPONDENT CHARLES P. IRWIN--

AH, BUT LIFE IS *GOOD* TO THE IDLE *RICH!* TAKE WARREN WORTHINGTON, FOR INSTANCE...

...HE HAS A SUMMER HOME IN THE ROCKIES, WITH ALL THE **LUXURIES!** HE ALSO HAS A PAIR OF VERY REAL **WINGS--**

--BUT WEALTH HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH **THAT.** YOU SEE, WARREN IS ALSO THE MUTANT KNOWN AS THE **AVENGING ANGEL!**

PHONE CALL, MR. WORTHINGTON!

WHY, **THANK** YOU, MS. SOUTHERN!

--SPOKESMEN FOR THIS SPECIAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY...

LIVE FROM WHEREVER

WARREN? YEAH, IT'S **BOBBY.** YEP, I'M STILL IN L.A.

REASON I'M **CALLING** IS... WELL, YOU ONCE SAID THE SUMMER PLACE WAS ALWAYS OPEN, AND...

SOOO! FOUND YOURSELF A **LADY,** eh? SURE, COME ON UP! CANDY AND I'D **LOVE** TO HAVE YOU.

"YEAH, **CANDY SOUTHERN!** WE RAN INTO EACH OTHER IN SOCORRO--

--AND DECIDED TO ...AH, **RENEW** OUR FRIEND-SHIP.

SO FUEL UP THE OL' CHAMPS FLITTER AND COME **JOIN** US!

WILL DO, WARREN! SEE YOU TOMORROW... ABOUT TEN! AND **THANKS!**

WELL, **KID**-- LOOKS LIKE WE'VE ONLY GOT 17 HOURS TILL THE **CHAPERONES** SHOW UP!

MMM, LET'S MAKE THE **MOST** OF THEM!

AND THOUGH INITIAL ATTEMPTS AT A CURE WERE **UNSUCCESS-FUL--**

LIVE FROM GAMMA B

--THE HOPE *REMAINS* THAT THIS TIME THE NATION'S HULK PROBLEM MAY AT LAST BE *RESOLVED!*

CHARLES P. IRWIN... CBS NEWS... AT GAMMA BASE.

A FINE REPORT, IRWIN. I'VE RARELY *SEEN* THE MEDIA TREAT GAMMA BASE SO *FAIRLY.*

WE DO OUR *BEST*, DOCTOR SAMSON.

TELL ME, WHAT ARE MY CHANCES OF *INTER-VIEWING* THE HULK?

WHAT?!

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE *ASKING?* THE HULK IS LIKE A *BOMB* WAITING TO GO OFF! THE SLIGHTEST ANGER... ANXIETY... YOU NAME IT, AND WE'VE GOT A *RAGING MONSTER* ON OUR HANDS!

LOOK, DOC, I'VE COVERED 'NAM AND ANGOLA! I DON'T *SCARE!*

KA-PLANG

WHAT THE DEVIL?!

YOU WERE *SAYING*, MR. IRWIN?

HULK IS *TIRED* OF THIS PLACE!

HULK WANTS OUT... *NOW!*

I WAS *AFRAID* OF THIS. HE'S GOTTEN SLIGHTLY CLAUSTROPHOBIC, AND HE'S REACTED IN THE MOST DIRECT MANNER!

GET OUT OF HULK'S *WAY!*

MY GOD... I NEVER REALIZED HE WAS SO... *BIG!*

WHOOP!

SORRY, MR. IRWIN, BUT YOU'LL BE SAFER UP THERE!

NOW...I KNOW YOU'RE UPSET, HULK. BUT WE ALL WANT TO HELP...SO WHY DON'T YOU--?

SAMSON--

--YOU TALK TOO MUCH!

HULK STILL HASN'T FORGOTTEN HOW YOU TRICKED HULK... CALLED HULK STUPID!*

YEAH, WELL, I WAS WRONG, HULK--AND I ADMIT IT! YOU ARE DEFINITELY NOT STUPID!

*HULK #225--BOB.

YES, BUT YOU STILL TALK TO HULK AS IF HULK WAS STUPID!

=URK=

AND HULK HATES THAT!

HULK! WHAT'RE YA DOIN' TO THE DOC?

IT'S OKAY, JIM... I'M FINE.

US ARMY TORP

I THINK.

HEY, TAKE IT EASY, M'MAN! WE KNOW YOU'VE HAD SOME HARD TIMES, BUT WE CAN WORK IT OUT.

STILL FRIENDS?

STILL... FRIENDS, JIM!

BLESS YOU, JIM! HE'S CALM AGAIN. WE MAY HAVE A CHANCE OF "CURING" THE HULK YET!

EARLY THE NEXT MORNING, THE CUSTOM AIRCRAFT ONCE BELONGING TO THE CHAMPIONS DIPS DOWN INTO THE NEW MEXICAN ROCKIES FOR A PERFECT VERTICAL LANDING AT CHATEAU WORTHINGTON.

HELLO, DOWN THERE!

BOBBY! HOW NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

HIYA, CANDY!

OH! CANDY SOUTHERN, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET TERESA SUE BOTTOMS!

HI.

HULLO.

YOU CAN CALL ME... TERRI...

BOY, THIS IS REALLY SOME SPREAD, ISN'T IT, TERRI?

TERRI?

HI, I'M WARREN WORTHINGTON.

UH... UH... UH...

OH, MR. WORTHINGTON, I'VE READ SO MUCH ABOUT YOU, AND WHEN BOBBY TOLD ME THAT HE KNEW YOU, AND WE WERE COMING HERE, WHY, I WAS JUST SO EXCITED, YA KNOW?!

HEY... CALL ME WARREN, OKAY?

ENTHUSIASTIC, ISN'T SHE?

WHY DO I GET THE FEELING THIS ISN'T MY DAY?

AND WHILE THE FOURSOME GETS BETTER ACQUAINTED, HALFWAY UP A NEARBY PEAK A BUCKSKIN-CLAD FIGURE COMES OUT OF HIS CAVE AND STARTS DOWN THE MOUNTAIN TOWARDS...

POOLSIDE, SOME MINUTES LATER...

I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYONE GUSH LIKE THAT SINCE *HIGH SCHOOL*. I'M SURPRISED SHE HASN'T GONE IN *AFTER* WARREN.

AW, GIVE ME A *BREAK*, CANDY. SURE TERRI'S A LITTLE *IMMATURE*, BUT...

OKAY, TERRI ...I'VE PUT IT ON.

NOW ARE YOU SATIS-FIED?

OH... GOLLY!

CAN YOU *BELIEVE* IT? SHE PUTS MORE FEELING INTO THAT "GOLLY" THAN SHE'S PUT INTO *ANY-THING* SHE'S EVER SAID TO ME!

HEY, IS SOMETHING *WRONG* CANDY? I MEAN, BESIDES...

I DON'T *KNOW*--

--BUT *GRIZZLY ADAMS* UP THERE *DOESN'T* LEAVE ME FEELING SAFE AND *SECURE*!

UH-OH! WARREN, I THINK WE'VE GOT *TROUBLE*!

TAKE IT EASY, PEOPLE. MAYBE THE MAN'S JUST LOST.

HELLO, SIR. IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO FOR YOU?

YES, THERE IS.

YOU CAN SURRENDER-- OR DIE!

HOLY--!

BEE YOOW

GIRLS, GET UPSTAIRS AND BOLT YOURSELVES IN!

NO WAY! IF YOU'RE IN DANGER, WE'RE STAYING!

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND? IF WE STAY HERE, WE'LL ONLY GET IN THE BOYS' WAY!

BUT I--!

COME ON!

HMMM

BELIEVE ME, HON-- THE BOYS CAN HANDLE THIS!

ESPECIALLY IF BOBBY IS WHO I THINK HE IS.

BOBBY? I THOUGHT--!

SECRET IDENTITIES BE HANGED, WARREN! YOU COULD USE THE ICEMAN!

DO YOU THINK THIS WILL STOP ME, DRAKE?

IF YOU DO, YOU ARE SADLY MISTAKEN!

NOW ACCEPT YOUR FATE... SURRENDER, MUTANTS!

FORGET IT, MISTER! YOU JUST TIPPED YOUR HAND WITH THAT LITTLE TRICK!

YOU'RE NOT QUITE HUMAN YOUR-SELF!

KER-RACK!

AND THAT MEANS THE GLOVES ARE OFF!

KLANG

HOO-HA! SOUNDS LIKE BUFFALO BILL IS WEARING SOME SORT OF BODY ARMOR!

POOK-H

A THING LIKE THAT COULD MAKE A FELLA SINK!

AND WE CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN NOW CAN WE?

THERE! I DON'T THINK MR. TRESPASSER WILL BE MELTING OUT OF THAT FOR A WHILE!

NOT BAD-- EH, WARREN?

NOT BAD AT ALL!

NOW, WHY DON'T YOU LET THE GIRLS OUT WHILE I CALL THE LOCAL GENDARMES?

OKAY BY *ME*, BOSSMAN! WHO KNOWS--

--MAYBE TERRI GETS OFF ON *ICE*, TOO!

HEY, DID YOU *HEAR* SOME-THING?

KRACK

GA-THOOM

OH, *NO!* THE GUY'S ANOTHER CRUMMY *SENTINEL!* WE CAN FIGHT SENTINELS IN OUR *SLEEP!*

WHEN WILL THEY EVER LEARN?

UH... ANGEL?

SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS ISN'T AN *ORDINARY* SENTINEL.*

VERY *ASTUTE*, ICEMAN!

*THE MUTANT-HUNTING SENTINELS FIRST APPEARED IN X-MEN #14... REMEMBER? -- BOB.

FOR I AM THE MASTER MOLD--
SENTINEL SUPREME!
AND IT IS MY SACRED DESTINY TO RID THE EARTH OF ALL MUTANTS!

BOBBY! I NEED A DELAYING ACTION--*FAST!*

GOTCHA, CHIEF!

NEVER TRIED THIS OUTSIDE OF THE OLD *DANGER ROOM*, BUT...

...WELL, HERE GOES *NOTHING!*

EH? IMPRESSIVE, DRAKE! YOU'RE ACTUALLY ABSORBING THE HEAT OUT OF THE VERY *AIR*-- LIKE A SUPER HEAT-PUMP!

IT'S A *PITY* YOUR ABSORPTION--

"--LEAVES YOU VULNERABLE TO MY *FRIGI-BLAST!*"

AAAKKK

HOW *IRONIC!* THE ICEMAN-- FELLED BY THE *COLD!*

SO SHALL *ALL* THE MUTANTS OF THE WORLD FALL!

FIRST, THE ICEMAN--

--AND NEXT, THE-- EH?

TRYING TO ESCAPE WON'T HELP YOU, ANGEL!

THERE IS NOWHERE ON THE FACE OF THIS PLANET YOU CAN HIDE FROM ME!

THE ROCKIES ECHO WITH THE ROAR OF MASTER MOLD'S BOOT-JETS--

--AS A SET OF STEEL SHUTTERS ARE CAUTIOUSLY OPENED, AND...

OMIGOD! A SENTINEL! IT MUST HAVE GRABBED BOBBY-- AND NOW IT'S AFTER WARREN!

GEE, I CAN SEE WHY HE'D GO AFTER WARREN, BUT WHY WOULD ANYBODY WANT BOBBY?

I HATED TO BREAK AND RUN, BUT THIS NEW MASTER MOLD MIGHT NOT HAVE THE USUAL SENTINEL SCRUPLES AGAINST HARMING NORMAL HUMANS!

I HAD TO LURE HIM AWAY FROM THE GIRLS!

NOW TO SEE IF I CAN SAVE MY OWN TAIL FEATHERS!

LIKE A RICOCHETING **BULLET**, THE MUTANT AIR ACE DARTS IN AND OUT OF THE ROCKY CANYONS--

--BUT TO NO AVAIL.

THA-BOOM

OH, **NO!** THIS THING'S LIKE IRON MAN AND THE HULK WRAPPED UP IN--!

THE **HULK!** OF **COURSE!**

GAMMA BASE IS ONLY A HUNDRED MILES **DOWN RANGE!**

OL' GREEN-SKIN'S JUST THE ONE TO **HANDLE** MOLDY! AND I CAN BE AT GAMMA BASE IN **MINUTES**, IF I REALLY--

--POUR IT ON!

AND, AT GAMMA AIR CONTROL...

RADAR DUTY! OF ALL THE **BUM ASSIGNMENTS!** THERE'S **NEVER** ANY EXCITEMENT...

BLIP BLIP

HEY, WHAT'S **THAT** ON THE SCREEN? TOO **SMALL** FOR A PLANE, TOO **FAST** FOR A BIRD-- AND IT'S BEING **FOLLOWED** BY--!

BLIP BLIP

BLIP

IT TAKES ONLY A SECOND FOR THE STARTLED RADIO OFFICER TO PUSH THE PANIC BUTTON--

--AND LESS THAN ONE MINUTE LATER, TWO SLEEK AIR FORCE JETS SCRAMBLE TO INTERCEPT THE STRANGE UFO'S.

ABEL-ONE, DID YOU SEE THAT?! IT'S A WINGED MAN!

NEVER MIND HIM! WHAT THE HELL IS--

U.S. AIR FORCE

1330

US AIR FORCE

--THAT?!

VRRR

I...HUNH... MADE...HUNH ...IT.

THE ANGEL, ISN'T IT?

LORD ALMIGHTY, MAN, YOU LOOK AWFUL! WHAT'S WRONG?!

HE'S... HUNH... COMING!

WHO'S COMING? TAKE YOUR TIME, SON!

NO... HUNH ...TIME.

VOOM

GET AWAY FROM HIM!

IT IS NOT MY PURPOSE TO HARM ANY HUMANS! ALL I WANT IS THE MUTANT!

WHAT?!

IF YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST FLY IN HERE AND GRAB SOMEBODY, THEN YOU CAN THINK--

KLATHOOM

WHAT IS ALL THIS NOISE?

--AGAIN.

STAY OUT OF THIS, LITTLE MAN! IT DOES NOT CONCERN YOU!

MAN?! HULK IS NO LITTLE MAN! HULK IS THE HULK!

AND NO BIG ROBOT TELLS HULK WHAT TO DO!

OH, NO?

KROOM

WHAT IS THIS?! FIRST, ROBOT SMASHES HULK'S FRIEND--

--THEN, ROBOT TRIES TO SMASH HULK! AND NOW--

--HULK IS WET AGAIN!

NO ONE DOES THAT TO HULK!

HULK... WAIT!

THAT'S NO ORDINARY ROBOT.

THAT'S A SENTI-NEL!

LIKE TWIN **HUMAN CANNON-BALLS**, THE GAMMA-POWERED TITANS SOAR INTO THE SKY AFTER THEIR QUARRY.

THE HULK CATCHES **HOLD** OF MASTER MOLD'S RIGHT BOOT, SINKING HIS MIGHTY FINGERS **DEEP** INTO THE METAL.

DOC SAMSON IS NOT SO **LUCKY.**

THE PSYCHIATRIST/STRONGMAN **PLUMMETS** BACK TO EARTH... LANDING FINALLY WITH A SICKENING...

THUD

FASTER, JULIUS! HE LANDED JUST **AHEAD!**

BUT, GENERAL ROSS... SIR, YOU SHOULDN'T **EXCITE** YOURSELF! YOU WERE JUST **RELEASED** FROM THE HOSPITAL--*

--AND YOUR RIBS HAVEN'T FULLY **HEALED!**

*WHERE HE WAS RECUPER-ATING FROM A BLOW FROM THE HULK. SEE HULK #226--BOB.

HANG MY RIBS! SAMSON, ARE YOU **ALL RIGHT?**

I... **THINK** SO, SIR!

SAMSON, I... THAT IS... FIRST WINGED MEN, THEN, ROBOTS, AND NOW...

...NOW WHAT?

WERE THE FLUSTERED GENERAL ROSS TO GAZE UPWARD, HE MIGHT CATCH ONE GLIMPSE OF THE ANSWER HE SEEKS.

THIS STUPID ROBOT FLIES FAST! HE TRIES TO BLOW THE HULK OFF WITH WIND!

BUT IT WON'T WORK, ROBOT! THE HULK IS TOO STRONG FOR YOU!

INCREDIBLE! THE BRUTE MUST POSSESS ALMOST UNLIMITED STAMINA.

GIVEN TIME, HE MIGHT ACTUALLY DO ME HARM --BUT IN JUST A MOMENT, HIS POWER WILL BE ALL FOR NAUGHT!

DO YOU HEAR HULK, ROBOT? DO... YOU...

...WHAT?

WHY CAN'T HULK SPEAK? WHY...

HIS QUESTION FADES AWAY, AS THE LAST ATOMS OF OXYGEN IN THE MAN-MONSTER'S LUNGS ARE EXHAUSTED.

FOR NOT EVEN THE RAMPAGING HULK CAN BREATHE FREELY...

...IN SPACE!

THE MASTER MOLD ROCKETS ON THROUGH THE ICY-COLD VOID, SEEMINGLY OBLIVIOUS TO THE TINY GREEN LIFE FORM THAT IS CAUGHT IN HIS BOOT.

HE DRAWS EVER NEARER THE JAGGED BULK OF A SMALL ASTEROID, SWINGING ABOUT IN THE EARTH'S GRAVITY WELL...

...AN ASTEROID WHICH, ON CLOSER OBSERVATION, IS MORE THAN A MERE CHUNK OF ROCK.

SLOWLY...

...LIKE SWIMMING THROUGH DARK MOLASSES...

...WARREN WORTHINGTON FIGHTS HIS WAY BACK TO CONSCIOUSNESS.

LOOK OUT! THE MASTER MOLD--!

TOO LATE, MUTANT! YOU AND YOUR ONCE-FROZEN ALLY HAVE FOUND YOUR FINAL HOMES.

WHERE ARE WE? WHO... WHAT ARE YOU REALLY? AND WHY...?

SO MANY QUESTIONS, ANGEL? I MIGHT ANSWER, WERE IT NOT SO SATISFYING TO KEEP YOU IN THE DARK!

ICE MAN

ANGEL

BLOB

MA

10·75

HA HA HA

PINCH ME, SOMEBODY! UNLESS I'M ASLEEP--

--I'M HEARING A SENTINEL LAUGH!

YOU'RE AWAKE, BOBBY.

:UNH:

AND SO IS OUR BIG GREEN BUDDY!

WHAT IS HULK DOING IN THIS *STUPID TUBE?*

BLOB

*THE TUBE IS FORMED OF TEMPERED **PLASTEEL**, SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO RESTRAIN THE AWESOME POWER OF THE MUTANT CALLED **BLOB**.*

LET HULK OUT!

BLOB

*AS FAR AS THE HULK IS CONCERNED, IT MIGHT AS WELL BE **PAPIER MÂCHÉ**!*

WARREN! LET ME OUT!

CONSIDER IT DONE, BOB!

WHERE IS THE ROBOT?

*THE **ROBOT** MUST HAVE PUT HULK IN THE TUBE! HE THOUGHT HE'D **TRAP** THE HULK!*

*COME ON OUT, FROSTY, AND JOIN THE **PARTY**!*

*FREED FROM THE **DAMPING EFFECT** OF THE TUBE, BOB DRAKE'S UNIQUE POWERS SPRING TO **LIFE**--*

*-- WHILE THE HULK APPLIES HIS SOMEWHAT **LESS SUBTLE** POWER TO THE CHAMBER'S DOOR.*

*WOW! HOW CAN ANYTHING **MORTAL** BE THAT STRONG?*

*BEATS **ME**, FEATHERS! FROM WHAT PROFESSOR X TOLD ME, HE EVEN GAVE THE **JUGGERNAUT** A RUN FOR HIS MONEY ONCE!**

**HULK #172 -- BOB.*

THE DOOR IS NEARLY A METER THICK, BUILT OF INTERTWINING BANDS OF THE HARDEST FORGED STEEL. IT FALLS IN LESS THAN 30 SECONDS.

ROBOT! HULK IS COMING FOR YOU!

BUT THE ROBOT IS NOT IN THE OBSERVATION CHAMBER. THE ONLY THING THERE...

--IS A VERY GOOD VIEW.

SPACE?!

OH, CRUD! WE'RE IN ORBIT! HOW DO WE GET DOWN TO EARTH FROM HERE?

HUNH! HULK HAS FALLEN FURTHER THAN THAT! HULK CAN GET DOWN EASILY!

BUT FIRST, HULK MUST SMASH THAT ROBOT!

THAT'S FINE FOR YOU, HULK, BUT ICEMAN AND I AREN'T AS STURDY AS YOU ARE!

BOBBY, KEEP HIM OUT OF TROUBLE. I'LL LOOK FOR A WAY OFF THIS THING!

YOU WANT ME TO DO WHAT?!

HEY... UH, HULK, OLD BUDDY... WHAT DO YOU SAY WE HANG OUT HERE UNTIL ANGEL GETS BACK?

HULK?

BAH!

I WAS AFRAID YOU'D SAY THAT!

OH, WELL! WAIT FOR ME, MR. GREEN!

THE TECHNOLOGY IN THIS PLACE IS UNBELIEVABLE! THAT, UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, IS THE POWER CORE FOR A FUSION REACTOR!

IF THIS NEW MASTER MOLD HAS LICKED THE PROBLEMS ON A BABY LIKE THAT, I HATE TO THINK WHAT ELSE HE HAS UP HIS METAL SLEEVES!

MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER SECTION...

COME ON, HULK, YOU'LL NEVER SNEAK UP ON MOLDY THAT WAY!

THE HULK DOESN'T SNEAK! THE HULK SMASHES!

WELL... SURE. BUT SOME OF THESE DOORS MAY BE UNLOCKED AND...

HOLY SMOKE!

I WONDERED WHY THIS PLACE SEEMED SO BIG.

"IT'S BUILT TO SCALE FOR MASTER MOLD!"

AND FROM THE LOOKS OF THAT SCREEN, HE'S GOT A KING-SIZED VERSION OF CEREBRO* AT WORK!

ROBOT!

SHH! KEEP IT DOWN, HULK!

*PROFESSOR XAVIER'S MUTANT-TRACKING COMPUTER-- BOB.

HE'LL HEAR--! HEY!

GET YOUR COLD HANDS OFF HULK, LITTLE MAN!

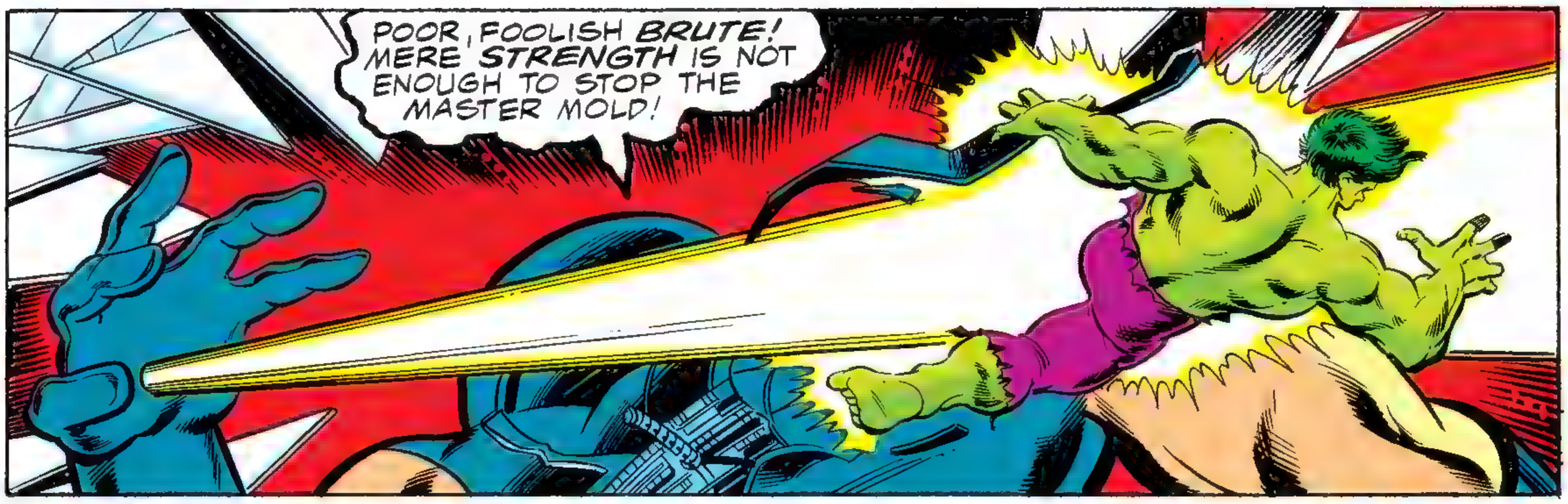
HULK TOLD YOU, HE DOESN'T CARE IF THE ROBOT HEARS HIM!

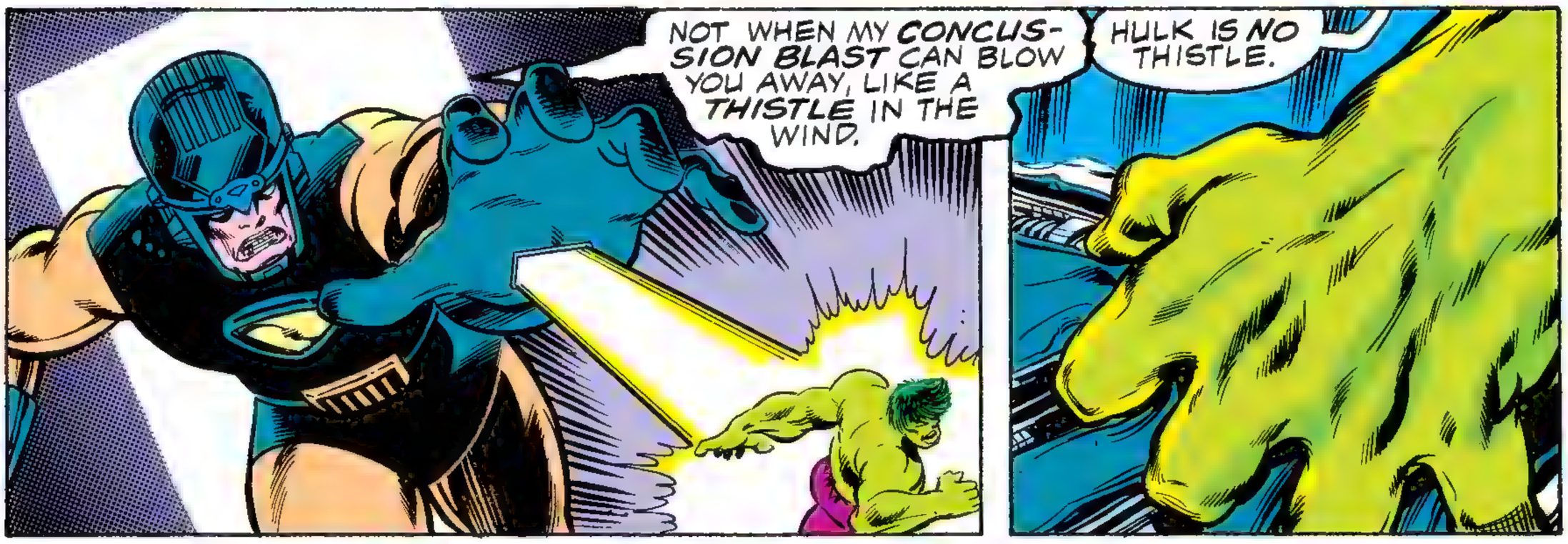
AND HULK DOESN'T NEED YOUR HELP TO FIGHT!

WHAT? WHO DARES TO ATTACK THE MASTER MOLD?

KRASH

THE HULK DARES, ROBOT!


POOR, FOOLISH BRUTE! MERE STRENGTH IS NOT ENOUGH TO STOP THE MASTER MOLD!


NOT WHEN MY CONCUSSION BLAST CAN BLOW YOU AWAY, LIKE A THISTLE IN THE WIND.
HULK IS NO THISTLE.

AND A ROBOT CANNOT FIGHT... IF HE CANNOT STAND!!

NOW, ROBOT--YOU WILL LEARN THAT NOTHING IS STRONGER THAN THE HULK!

NOTHING!

ZZZAAAPP

YOU HAVE TRIED MY *PATIENCE* WITH YOUR TALK OF STRENGTH, MONSTER! IT WILL DO YOU LITTLE GOOD AGAINST A *MILLION VOLTS* OF UNBRIDLED ENERGY!

REMARKABLE! I BELIEVE THAT HE IS STILL *BREATHING!*

ALL RIGHT, WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? *REAL* SENTINELS DON'T LAUGH OR SHOW SURPRISE!

JUST WHAT THE DEVIL *ARE* YOU?

OH, I AM INDEED A SENTINEL *NOW*, DRAKE... THOUGH I WAS NOT *ALWAYS* SO.

BEFORE I *DIED*, I WAS A MAN... A MAN NAMED *STEVEN LANG*.

"I WAS THE HEAD OF *PROJECT ARMAGEDDON*, A GOVERNMENT STUDY OF MUTANTS--AND I WAS DEDICATED TO THEIR *EXTERMINATION.*

"AT LEAST, I *WAS* BEFORE I MET DEATH AT THE HANDS OF THE ACCURSED *X-MEN!**

*X-MEN #100 --BOB.

"BUT THE CRASH OF MY FLYING GUNSHIP DID NOT KILL ME *IMMEDIATELY.* AS THE COWARDLY X-MEN FLED MY BURNING SHIELD *SPACE PLATFORM*--

"--I PULLED MYSELF FROM THE WRECKAGE AND *CRAWLED* TO THE CHAMBER WHICH HELD MY GREATEST *WEAPON*--

"--THE *MASTER MOLD!*

"IF I WAS TO *DIE*, ALL MUTANTKIND WOULD *SUFFER* FOR IT!

"BUT, AS WITH MY *OTHER* SENTINELS, THE MASTER MOLD'S CIRCUITRY DEVIATED *TOO MUCH* FROM BOLIVAR TRASK'S* ORIGINAL DESIGNS.

*TRASK BUILT THE FIRST SENTINELS. SEE X-MEN #14 --BOB.

"I DID NOT MERELY *ACTIVATE* THE MASTER MOLD.

"AS I BREATHED MY LAST, I *BECAME* THE MASTER MOLD!

BALONEY!

EH?

WHEN THE SHIELD BOYS RECLAIMED THEIR ORBITAL PLATFORM, THEY *FOUND* LANG.

HE'S STILL *ALIVE* IN A GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL--A *MIND-LESS VEGETABLE!*

WHATEVER YOU MAY BE, YOU'RE *NOT* STEVEN LANG!

THAT... *CANNOT BE!*

MY *MIND*... MY *MEMORIES* ARE LANG'S! I *MUST* BE HIM! I *MUST!*

THE HULK DOESN'T CARE *WHO* YOU ARE, ROBOT!

KRAKOOM

HULK WILL *SMASH* YOU JUST THE SAME!

BAM

KLANG

HOOG

KOOM

I... THINK I'M GOING TO BE SICK.

UH... YEAH, HULK, ARE YOU READY TO GO NOW? PLEASE?

BAH! HULK MIGHT AS WELL GO. ROBOT WILL NOT BOTHER HULK AGAIN.

THE MOTLEY TRIO LEAVES THE COMMAND CHAMBER--

--BUT BEHIND THEM THE HAND OF MASTER MOLD TWITCHES SPASMODICALLY TO LIFE!

THERE'S OUR RIDE HOME, FOLKS!

A LITTLE ON THE SMALL SIDE, ISN'T IT?

IT'LL BE A TIGHT SQUEEZE, BUT I THINK WE'LL FIT.

YEAH, I GUESS. COME ON, HULK, IT'LL BE FUN--

--JUST LIKE STAR WARS!

BUT BEFORE THE HULK CAN ENTER THE TINY CRAFT...

MUTANTS! ESCAPE IS IMPOSSIBLE! I HAVE JAMMED ALL EMERGENCY CAPSULES!

IF I AM TO DIE A ROBOT, YOU SHALL DIE, TOO. I... HAVE SET THE FUSION REACTOR TO OVERLOAD.

ROBOT!

HULK, WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE! I'M SURE WE CAN UNJAM--!

NO! HULK IS NOT GOING ANYWHERE UNTIL THE ROBOT IS SMASHED!

OH, YEAH?!

HUNH?!

I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE *DOING*, BOBBY!

COME AND *GET* ME, YA BIG GREEN *GOOF!*

NYAH, NYAH!

YOU WANT TO *TRICK* HULK INTO THAT LITTLE ROOM, BUT IT WON'T WORK!

YOU WANT TO GO?

THEN GO!

WITH AS LITTLE EFFORT AS A MAN KICKING A TIRE, THE EMERALD MAN-MONSTER KICKS THE ESCAPE CAPSULE FREE--

--AIRLOCK AND ALL!

AIR RUSHES *AWAY* FROM HULK-- *PULLING* AT HULK!

HULK MUST HOLD *BREATH!*

ALMOST BEFORE HE CAN REACT, THE HULK IS SUCKED OUT INTO THE VOID. HE HALTS HIMSELF ON THE VERY LIP OF THE OPENING...

...AND DOGGEDLY FIGHTS HIS WAY BACK IN!

HULK WILL SMASH THAT ROBOT FOR *GOOD!*

MEANWHILE, PROPELLED BY THE HULK'S KICK, THE ESCAPE MODULE **TUMBLES** STEADILY TOWARD THE GREEN HILLS OF EARTH--

--AT AN EVER-INCREASING **SPEED.**

AND AS THE FALLING BODY MEETS THE OUTER FRINGES OF **ATMOS-PHERE**--

--THINGS START TO GET VERY **HOT.**

WARREN... I HOPE THE **BRAKING** ROCKETS KICK IN PRETTY SOON...

...'CAUSE IF THEY **DON'T**--!

I KNOW... WE WON'T HAVE TO **WORRY** ABOUT A ROUGH LANDING.

AT THE LAST INSTANT, THE RETROS DO FIRE... SLOWING THE MUTANTS' **DEATH DIVE** EVER SO SLIGHTLY...

WHUMP

...SLOWING IT JUST ENOUGH FOR WRECKAGE FROM MASTER MOLD'S DEPRES-SURIZING SATEL-LITE TO **IMPACT** WITH THE CRAFT...

...BUT NOT ENOUGH TO KEEP THE OUTER HULL FROM BECOMING **WHITE-HOT SLAG** AS IT PLUM-METS **WILDLY** PAST THE OUTSKIRTS OF MIAMI IN THE FINAL MOMENTS BEFORE...

...SPLASHDOWN!

SUDDENLY, A SMALL AREA OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN IS SEIZED BY A VIOLENT BUT HIGHLY LOCALIZED STORM OF **BOILING RAIN**--

--AS IF THE PLANET WERE BIDDING ONE **LAST SALUTE** TO THE FALLEN ANGEL AND HIS FRIEND.

BUT THEN, LIKE A CORK IN A FISH TANK, THE CAPSULE BOBS TO THE **SURFACE**, ROLLING UNEASILY IN THE ANGRY SEA...

POONT

EASY DOES IT, BOB! WE'RE HOME FREE NOW!

NO... NOT YET! THIS THING WON'T STAY AFLOAT LONG!

GOTTA ICE US A RAFT... SOMETHING!

CAREFUL, MAN! THAT **RE-ENTRY** TOOK A LOT OUT OF YOU. WE'RE SAFE... **TRUST** ME!

YEAH... BUT WHAT ABOUT THE **HULK?**

AS IF IN ANSWER TO ICEMAN'S QUESTION, THE HEAVENS SUDDENLY ERUPT WITH THE LIGHT OF A **MINIATURE STAR**--

...AS THE MASTER MOLD'S PLANETOID... **CEASES TO EXIST.**

THE HULK. OH, MY GOD.

HE WAS STILL UP THERE.

THERE'S NO WAY EVEN HE COULD HAVE SURVIVED THAT BLAST.

I HOPE HE AT LEAST GOT A FEW MORE LICKS IN ON MASTER MOLD BEFORE...THE END.

HE WOULD HAVE WANTED TO... TO... WARREN ARE YOU ROCKING THE RAFT?

WHY DON'T YOU HELP HULK OUT OF THE WATER?

HULK? BUT HOW?

BAH! STUPID FLOOR CAME LOOSE IN HULK'S HANDS, AND HULK FELL.

SO THAT'S WHAT HIT THE CAPSULE! YOU GRABBED ON TO THE UNDERSIDE!

UH...YEAH. BUT YOU HAVE TO BE GETTING BACK TO THE DESERT... RIGHT, HULK? YOU PROMISED YOUR FRIENDS, DIDN'T YOU?

WE'RE GLAD YOU MADE IT, GREEN GUY!

FRIENDS?

AT GAMMA BASE, HULK. REMEMBER?

BASE...YES! JIM IS AT BASE! HULK MUST GO BACK--

--NOW!

HEY!

THOOM

WELL, THERE HE GOES! I DON'T KNOW WHAT DOC SAMSON HAS PLANNED FOR HIM,* BUT I HOPE IT WORKS!

YEAH, HE REALLY DESERVES HIS PLACE IN THE SUN.

*SEE HULK #228 TO FIND OUT -- BOB.

SPEAKING OF PLACES IN THE SUN, WE'D BETTER HUSTLE BACK TO THE MOUNTAINS OURSELVES.

WE STILL HAVE TO FIND OUT IF TERRI SUE GETS OFF ON ICE. THAT IS, IF CANDY HASN'T KILLED HER BY NOW!

WHY ME, LORD? WHY ME?

END

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THE INCREDIBLE HULK

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MURDER IS A MAID CALLED *Moonstone!*

Caught in the heart of a ***Nuclear Explosion,*** victim of ***Gamma-Radiation*** gone wild, ***Doctor Robert Bruce Banner*** now finds himself transformed in times of stress into seven feet, one thousand pounds of unfettered ***Fury***—the most powerful creature to ever walk the earth—

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LESS THAN 48 HOURS AGO, AN EXPERIMENTAL DRUG TRIGGERED BRUCE BANNER'S TRANSFORMATION INTO THE **INCREDIBLE HULK**, AS PART OF DOC SAMSON'S ATTEMPT TO **CURE** THE MAN-MONSTER. *

THE CURE WAS A **FAILURE**... MORE WAYS THAN **ONE**

DUE TO A **MISCALCULATED** DOSAGE OF THE DRUG, GAMMA BASE HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH A FULL **WEEK** OF THE HULK'S COMPANY.

UNLESS, THAT IS, THIS **SIX TON PRESS** DECIDES OTHERWISE!

STERN & GILLIS, WRITERS

BUSCEMA & McLEOD ARTISTS

PATTERSON • LETTERS
PHIL RACHE • COLORS

HALL • EDITOR
SHOOTER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

LG55

*LAST ISSUE--BOB.

BAD MOON ON THE RISE!

ONE REINFORCED WALL AWAY...

IS IT **WORKIN'**, DOC?

NOT LIKE I'D **HOPED**, JIM. THIS SERIES OF **TESTS** IS A COMPLETE **WASHOUT!** THERE TRULY SEEMS TO BE **NO LIMIT** TO THE HULK'S STRENGTH!

I GUESS OUR ONLY HOPE IS TO CONTINUE WITH MY PSYCHO-SENSITIVITY TRAINING FOR THE HULK UNTIL THE DRUG WEARS OFF AND...

MY GOD! HE'S **OVER-LOADING** THE HYDRAULIC TEST STAND!

DANGER

HULK--**EASE OFF!** WE'VE SEEN **ENOUGH!** YOU CAN **STOP** PUSHING THE MACHINE!

WHAT IS **WRONG** WITH YOU, SAMSON? YOU **TOLD** HULK TO STOP MACHINE--

--AND THAT'S JUST WHAT HULK WILL **DO!**

WITH ONE, FINAL **STEEL-MANGLING TUG**, THE GREEN BEHEMOTH LITERALLY **RIPS** THE GI-GANTIC PRESS APART--

--TAKING THE CEILING, FLOOR, AND RESTRAINING WALLS WITH IT!

KA-THOOM

DOC! DIVE FOR COVER!

AND I THOUGHT I'D SEEN STRONG BEFORE! HE LEVELED THE ENTIRE TEST STAND LIKE IT WAS MADE OF PAPIER MÂCHÉ!

THANK GOD THE WILSON BOY WAS WEARING A HIGH-IMPACT G-SUIT!

I NEVER SHOULD HAVE ALLOWED SAMSON TO INITIATE THESE TESTS!

WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU HAD A LOT OF CHOICE IN THE MATTER, GENERAL. SAMSON STARTED THIS WHOLE PSYCHOTHERAPY KICK WHILE YOU WERE STILL IN THE HOSPITAL HAVING YOUR RIBS SET.

BLAME?! DON'T TALK TO ME ABOUT BLAME!

SAMSON BROUGHT THIS ON HIMSELF. THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO TAKE THE BLAME...

THUNDERBOLT ROSS TAKES THE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS COMMAND! AND I'LL THANK YOU TO KEEP YOUR NOSE OUT OF IT!

UNDERSTAND?!

UH... SURE THING, GENERAL. WHATEVER YOU SAY.

MEANWHILE, IN THE TESTING PIT...

YOU'RE SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT, JIM?

YEAH, BUT IF IT WEREN'T FOR THIS MONKEY SUIT... WHOA, MAMA!

WHAT IS... JIM! SAMSON, IF YOU HAVE HURT HULK'S FRIEND...

...THEN NOTHING WILL SAVE YOU FROM THE HULK!

HEY, EASE OFF, HULK! I'M FINE, M'MAN!

HAH! I TOLD DOC YOU'D WHIP THAT OL' MACHINE!

KEEP IT UP, JIM--

"--ENOUGH POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT, AND WE'LL WIN THE HULK OVER! I KNOW WE WILL!"

HULK ...DID GOOD?

YOU DID TERRIFIC, HULK!

HEY, YOU MUST BE HUNGRY AFTER THAT WORKOUT! COME ON, I'LL RUSTLE US UP SOME FRANKS AND BEANS!

AND AS ONE RELATIONSHIP STARTS TO GROW--

--UP ON THE **GAMMA BASE AIRFIELD**, ANOTHER ONE IS ABOUT TO END.

McCRACKEN! LEAVING US SO **SOON?**

HUH? OH...**YEAH**, GENERAL, I'VE GOTTA MAKE A **LIVING** AFTER ALL!

WELL, THEN--HERE'S WISHING YOU A **CLEAR SKY!**

THANKS. I NEVER THOUGHT AN OLD BUSH-HOPPER LIKE ME WOULD **EVER** BE GETTING A SEND-OFF FROM A **THREE-STAR!**

;Hmph; I WASN'T **ALWAYS** A GENERAL, YOU KNOW! I LEARNED TO FLY BY THE SEAT OF MY **PANTS**...BARNSTORMING AT COUNTY FAIRS.

NOWADAYS, THEY HARDLY LET ME **LOOK** AT A PLANE. THEY SAY I'M TOO OLD. **TOO OLD!**

IS THAT **FAIR?** I **ASK** YOU, SPAD!

OF **COURSE**, IT'S NOT! THE BLASTED **FOOLS!** SAY...

WELL... AH...

...THIS IS A LOVELY LITTLE LADY YOU'VE GOT HERE!

THAT FARAWAY LOOK IN THE OLD BOY'S EYES IS GIVING ME THE **WILLIES!** I'LL BE HERE **ALL DAY** IF I CAN'T GET RID OF...BINGO!

Uh,.. **SAY**, GENERAL ...WHAT'S WITH THE **NEWSHOUNDS** OVER THERE? YOU'D THINK THE **WAR** JUST STARTED!

WHAT?! THIS IS A GOVERNMENT FACILITY, DAMMIT... NOT A **MOVIE GALA!** THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO STAY IN THE **PRESS COMPOUND!**

YEAH... TAKE CARE, AMIGO.

GOOD-BYE, Mc CRAKEN.

YES, GENTLEMEN-- YOU MAY **QUOTE** ME! THE INCREDIBLE HULK WILL BE **JOINING** KROPOTKIN THE GREAT FOR A WHIRLWIND **12-CITY TOUR** FOLLOWING HIS REHABILITATION!

THIS'LL BE A **RIOT** FOR THE CLOSING SPOT ON TONIGHT'S NEWS!

YEAH. AND THE **ENQUIRER** WILL PROBABLY **HEADLINE** IT! CAN YOU SEE THE **COVER?**

ALL RIGHT, **BREAK IT UP!** YOU PEOPLE WERE GIVEN A SCHEDULE. AND **ALL** INTERVIEWS WERE TO BE **CLEARED!** WHAT THE DEVIL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE **DOING** OUT HERE?!

KEEP THE CAMERAS ROLLING, STU.

GENERAL, IS IT **TRUE** THAT DR. SAMSON TURNED TO THIS HULK-THERAPY THING AS A **DESPERATION MEASURE?**

SIR, WHAT ABOUT REPORTS THAT GOVERNMENT FUNDS WERE **DIVERTED** TO BUILD A STEEL PSYCHIATRIST'S COUCH?

GENTLEMEN... **WAIT!** I'M...

LEVEL WITH US, GENERAL-- ISN'T SAMSON JUST TRYING TO **COVER UP** THE FACT THAT HIS TREATMENT WAS A MISERABLE **FAILURE?**

WHY, YOU SLIMY **JACKALS!**

WHAT'S THE **MATTER?** DIDN'T KOREAGATE MAKE ENOUGH **HEADLINES** FOR YOU? YOU MAKE ME SICK TO MY **STOMACH!**

YOU AND YOUR KIND OUGHT TO BE **LOCKED UP! ALL OF YOU!**

THE PENTAGON HAS **REFUSED** COMMENT ON ROSS'S **OUTBURST.**

HOWEVER, ON CAPITOL HILL, **SENATORS HAWK** AND **STIVAK** CALLED FOR ROSS'S **REMOVAL** AS HEAD OF...

OH, **DAD!** WHAT'S THAT JOB **DOING** TO YOU?

HE'S ACTING LIKE HE DID AFTER MOMMA DIED...ONLY **WORSE.** MAYBE I SHOULD **CALL** AND--!

NO, I **CAN'T.** HE'D ONLY ASK ME TO **COME BACK...** TO **RECONCILE** WITH GLENN.

AND I CAN'T FACE **THAT... NOW!**

ESPECIALLY NOT NOW!

BUT AS THE FORMER **BETTY ROSS TALBOT** TURNS AWAY FROM THE CALL THAT WOULD **END** HER NEW LIFE--

--ANOTHER WOMAN IS PUNCHING OUT THE TEN DIGITS THAT WILL **CONNECT** HER WITH...

GAMMA BASE FEDERAL RESEARCH FACILITY.

DR. LEONARD SAMSON'S OFFICE, PLEASE.

ONE **MOMENT.** I'LL SWITCH YOU.

THIS LATEST **HULK STUDY** IS TOO GOOD AN **OPPORTUNITY** TO PASS UP. I'VE JUST **GOT** TO...

DR. SAMSON'S OFFICE. YES, I WAS WONDERING IF I MIGHT SPEAK WITH THE **DOCTOR.** I'D LIKE TO VOLUNTEER MY **SERVICES.**

MY NAME IS **SOFEN...**

...DR. KARLA SOFEN. BUT, PLEASE, CALL ME KARLA. "DR. SOFEN" SOUNDS TOO MUCH LIKE MY FATHER!

I STILL REMEMBER THE STIR YOU CAUSED AT THE UTRECHT CONFERENCE. I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW HAPPY I AM TO WORK WITH ANOTHER PSYCHIATRIC BLACK SHEEP!

COME ON, I'LL SHOW YOU THE HULK'S FILE!

AND FINALLY, AT THE END OF YET ANOTHER LONG DAY...

YOU'VE JUST GOT TO GET SOME REST TONIGHT, HULK! YOU'VE BEEN UP FOR ALMOST THREE DAYS. YOU MUST BE TIRED!

HULK IS TIRED... BUT NOT USED TO BED. IT FEELS... FUNNY.

YEAH, I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT IT, BUT YOU'VE SEEN EVEN FEWER WARM BEDS THAN I HAVE! WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME, M'MAN?

HULK DOESN'T REMEMBER, JIM.

WELL, LET'S HOPE IT BECOMES A HABIT FOR BOTH OF US!

'NIGHT, HULK!

HUNH! HULK STILL DOESN'T LIKE BED!

OH, KARLA--I'LL HAVE THOSE PAPERS READY FOR YOU FIRST THING IN THE MORNING!

THANKS. BILL. YOU'RE A DOLL!

IN THE FOURTEEN HOURS SINCE HER ARRIVAL, KARLA SOFEN HAS BECOME THE SWEET-HEART OF GAMMA BASE ...SHE'S LIKE EVERYBODY'S KID SISTER.

BUT A SUNNY SMILE AND A SWEET DISPOSITION MEAN LITTLE TO A MAGNO-LOCK.

RESTRICTED

THE ONLY WAY TO ITS STEELY LITTLE HEART IS WITH A SPECIALLY CODED COHERENT LIGHT BEAM.*

*SEE HULK #223--BOB.

NEVERTHELESS, KARLA SOFEN IS NOTHING, IF NOT RESOURCEFUL.

NO ONE IN SIGHT... NOW'S MY CHANCE.

RESTRICT

ZZOW

KLIK

JACKPOT! I THOUGHT THE GAMMAVATOR COMPONENTS MIGHT BE STORED HERE. THE CORPORATION WILL PAY A FORTUNE FOR THE KEY CIRCUITS.

OF COURSE, THEY WOULD BE ON THE TOP SHELF!

BUT THAT HARDLY POSES A PROBLEM FOR ME!

UPSY-DAISY!

MEANWHILE, SLEEP IS PROVING **ELUSIVE** TO A CERTAIN GREEN-SKINNED GOLIATH...

ROOM IS TOO **SMALL**... AND BED IS TOO **SOFT**! MAKES HULK **NERVOUS**!

HULK WILL GO OUT DOORS AND ... **EH**?

DOOR IS **UNLOCKED**?!

MAYBE SAMSON IS HULK'S FRIEND **AFTER ALL**!

HULK QUARTERS RESTRICTED AREA

TWO DAYS AGO, WHEN LEN SAMSON BEGAN HIS PROGRAM TO **REHABILITATE** THE HULK, HE POINTED OUT THE **FOLLY** OF LOCKING DOORS.

IF THE HULK **WANTS** OUT, HE **GETS** OUT! SO INSTEAD OF **LOCKS**, SAMSON HAD A SYSTEM OF **ELECTRIC EYES** INSTALLED--

-- LINKED TO **ALARMS** SET TO GO OFF IN OTHER AREAS OF THE COMPLEX, TO **WARN** OF THE HULK'S MOVEMENTS.

BRREEEEEEE

BLAST! I WAS SURE MY LASER BOLT HAD SILENCED THE ALARM SYSTEM! I MUSTN'T BE FOUND **HERE**!

NO, LET ME **REVISE** THAT-- **KARLA SOFEN** MUST NOT BE FOUND HERE!

SO IF **ANY** INTRUDER IS SEEN SNOOPING AROUND THESE HALLS, IT'LL JUST HAVE TO BE--

"--THE MOONSTONE!"

OH, NO! NOT THE HULK! HE MUST HAVE SET THE ALARM OFF! THIS IS DISASTROUS!

HUH? METAL LADY WALKING THROUGH WALL? HULK THOUGHT HE WAS AWAKE!

KEEP AWAY FROM ME, HULK. I... HAVE TO GO!

DON'T LEAVE. HULK CANNOT HURT YOU! THIS IS JUST A DREAM.

WRAK

I SAID KEEP AWAY!

DREAM OR NO DREAM, NOBODY DOES THAT TO THE HULK!

THEN CALL ME NOBODY!

THE BASE OPTIMISTS HAD HOPED AGAINST THE HULK GOING ON A RAMPAGE...

WEEEOOO

...BUT ALL HAD LIVED IN FEAR OF IT!

...THE PESSIMISTS HAD EXPECTED IT...

IT SOUNDS LIKE THE HULK IS TEARING THE PLACE APART!

BUT HE WAS DOING SO WELL, DOC! WHAT COULD'VE SET HIM OFF? WHAT?!

WHAT AM I DOING?

I'VE LET IRRATIONAL FEARS JEOPARDIZE MY WHOLE OPERATION! I'M STRONG AND FAST ENOUGH TO ELUDE THE HULK--

--BUT WITH ALL THE COMMOTION WE'VE CAUSED, THE PLACE WILL SOON BE SWARMING WITH SOLDIERS. IF THEY DISCOVER MY THEFTS...

HAH! HULK HAS YOU NOW!

DAMN YOU, HULK! YOU'VE SPOILED EVERYTHING!

WHY DO YOU HIT HULK? WHY?!

WAIT A MINUTE! I CAN STILL TURN THIS FIASCO TO MY ADVANTAGE... WITH JUST A LITTLE VOCAL PRODING!

AND WHEN THE GLISTENING WOMAN NEXT CRIES OUT, IT IS WITH THE SHRILL VOICE OF A HYSTERICAL TEENAGER!

LET GO OF ME, YOU MONSTER!

HUH? METAL LADY IS JUST... A GIRL?

THAT GOT TO HIM! HE WASN'T EXPECTING SUCH A CHANGE IN MY VOICE

NOW FOR PHASE TWO!

GET AWAY! YOU FRIGHTEN ME!

WHA-

BOOM

ALL THE CONFLICTING STIMULI I'VE TOSSED AT HIM OUGHT TO THROW HIM INTO A ***RAGE!*** HE'LL CAUSE ENOUGH DAMAGE TO ***COVER*** MY LITTLE CRIME, I'LL BE ABLE TO ***SLIP AWAY,*** AND...

...UH, OH.

WHERE IS METAL WOMAN?!

LORD!

YOU ***SCREAM*** AT HULK... ***BLAST*** HULK!

WHOOM

HULK IS ***SICK*** OF IT!

IT'S WORKING FASTER THAN I ***THOUGHT!*** I'LL HAVE TO MANIPULATE HIM ***VERY CAREFULLY!***

OOO

YOU ARE A ***MONSTER,*** HULK... AN ***EVIL*** MONSTER. YOU SHOULD BE ***DEAD.***

--AND FULL OF ***HURT*** AND ***RESENT-MENT*** AS SHE RETREATS.

I HATE YOU... HATE YOU... ***HATE YOU!***

HER VOICE IS ***CALM*** AND ***AUTHORITATIVE*** AS SHE MELTS THE METAL POLE--

HULK! WHAT'S WRONG IN THERE?

SAMSON! I'VE GOT TO KEEP HIM OUT OF HERE.

HAVE TO BREAK THAT WINDOW...

CRASH

HULK... WHAT'S GOING ON?

LEN... IT'S **ME**... KARLA! I CAN'T **BELIEVE** IT --THE HULK JUST SEEMED TO **EXPLODE** INTO MADNESS!

KARLA! MY GOD, **YOU** CAN'T HANDLE THE HULK! I'M **COMING IN!**

NO, LEN--**WAIT!** I THINK I **CAN** HANDLE HIM! GIVE ME A **CHANCE**--

--YOU TRUSTING **FOOL!**

*HER VOICE IS **NORMAL** NOW, FULL OF **REASON** AND **DEDICATION.** BUT AS THE HULK TURNS THE **CORNER**--*

*--HER TONE SHIFTS TO VENOMOUS **LOATHING** AND **CONTEMPT.***

YOU! I **HATE** YOU! YOU'RE A **MONSTER!** **EVERYBODY** HATES YOU!

YOUR DOCTOR HATES YOU... YOUR FRIENDS HATE YOU... **YOUR MOTHER HATES YOU!**

SHUT UP! **SHUT UP!**

YOU'RE A *MONSTER*, HULK! BETTY LEFT BECAUSE SHE HATED YOU! EVEN *JARELLA* HATED YOU!

JARELLA?!

YOU LIE! *LIE!*

JARELLA *LOVED* HULK!

NO! I PUSHED HIM *TOO FAR!*

HULK WILL NOT *LISTEN* TO YOUR LIES!

HULK WILL NOT LISTEN *AT ALL!*

HE'S...JUST LETTING OFF *STEAM.* PLEASE, GOD... LET HIM *JUST* BE LETTING OFF STEAM!

LEONARD SAMSON IS AN OPTIMIST--

--AND FOR THAT REASON, THE SIGHT HE BEHOLDS DEVASTATES HIM ALL THE MORE.

NO. OH, *NO.*

HULK... *BUDDY...* DON'T DO IT!

HULK WILL LISTEN TO NO ONE--***NO ONE!*** HULK IS A ***MONSTER!***

AND NOW EVERYONE WILL SEE JUST ***HOW MUCH*** OF A MONSTER THE HULK CAN ***BE!***

AND AS THE CROWD BELOW HIM LOOKS ON IN SHOCKED SILENCE, THE RAGING BEHEMOTH RAISES THE ***UNCONSCIOUS FIGURE*** HIGH OVER HIS HEAD--

--LITTLE ***REALIZING*** THAT THE BEDEVILING "METAL LADY" NOW HAS THE FRAGILE FORM OF ***DR. KARLA SOFEN!***

NEXT:

THE DISGRACE OF THE HULK--THE SECRET OF KARLA SOFEN--AND THE STARTLING FATE OF THUNDERBOLT ROSS!

THE MOONSTONE IS A HARSH MISTRESS!

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THE INCREDIBLE HULK®

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MARVEL'S TV SENSATION!

MORE SAVAGE THAN EVER--

THE HULK STRIKES BACK!

TRIMPE

Caught in the heart of a ***Nuclear Explosion,*** victim of ***Gamma-Radiation*** gone wild, ***Doctor Robert Bruce Banner*** now finds himself transformed in times of stress into seven feet, one thousand pounds of unfettered ***Fury***—the most powerful creature to ever walk the earth—

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE INCREDIBLE HULK!®

ROGER STERN WRITER * SAL BUSCEMA & MIKE ESPOSITO ARTISTS * BRUCE D.-LETTERER * GEORGE R.-COLORIST * BOB HALL-EDITOR JIM SHOOTER-EDITOR IN CHIEF

WHILE UNDERGOING **PSYCHO-THERAPY** AT GAMMA BASE TO TEMPER HIS ANTISOCIAL TENDENCIES, THE HULK HAS BEEN DRIVEN INTO A MADDENED **FRENZY** BY THE WOMAN CALLED **MOONSTONE!**

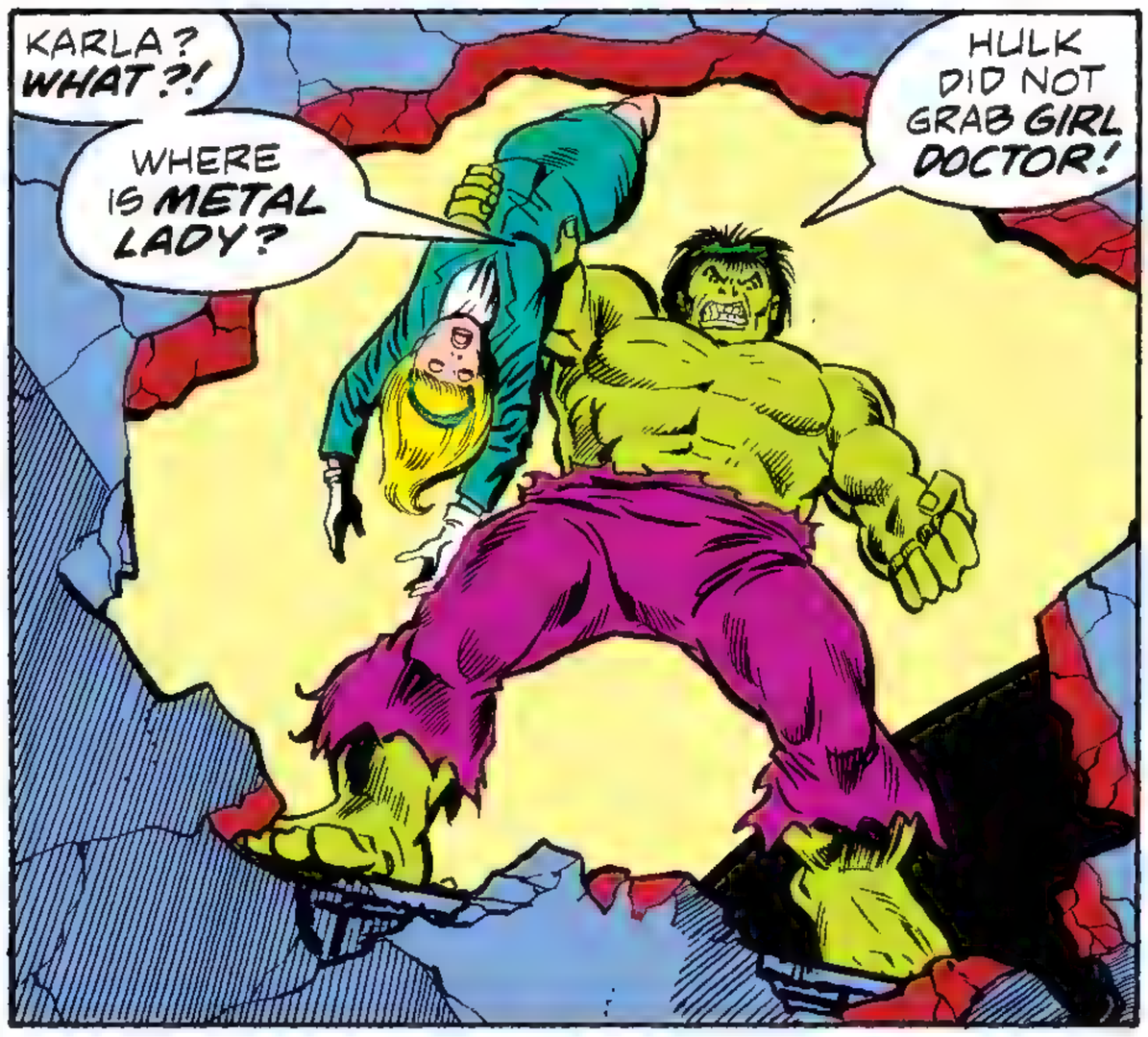
HULK IS A MONSTER-- A **MONSTER!!**

BUT, **UNNOTICED** BY THE RAVING MAN-BRUTE, THE UNCONSCIOUS MOONSTONE HAS REVERTED TO HER **HUMAN FORM**, DR. KARLA SOFEN--

--A WOMAN WHO IS APPARENTLY ABOUT TO BE **HURLED TO HER DEATH!**

THE MOONSTONE IS A HARSH MISTRESS!

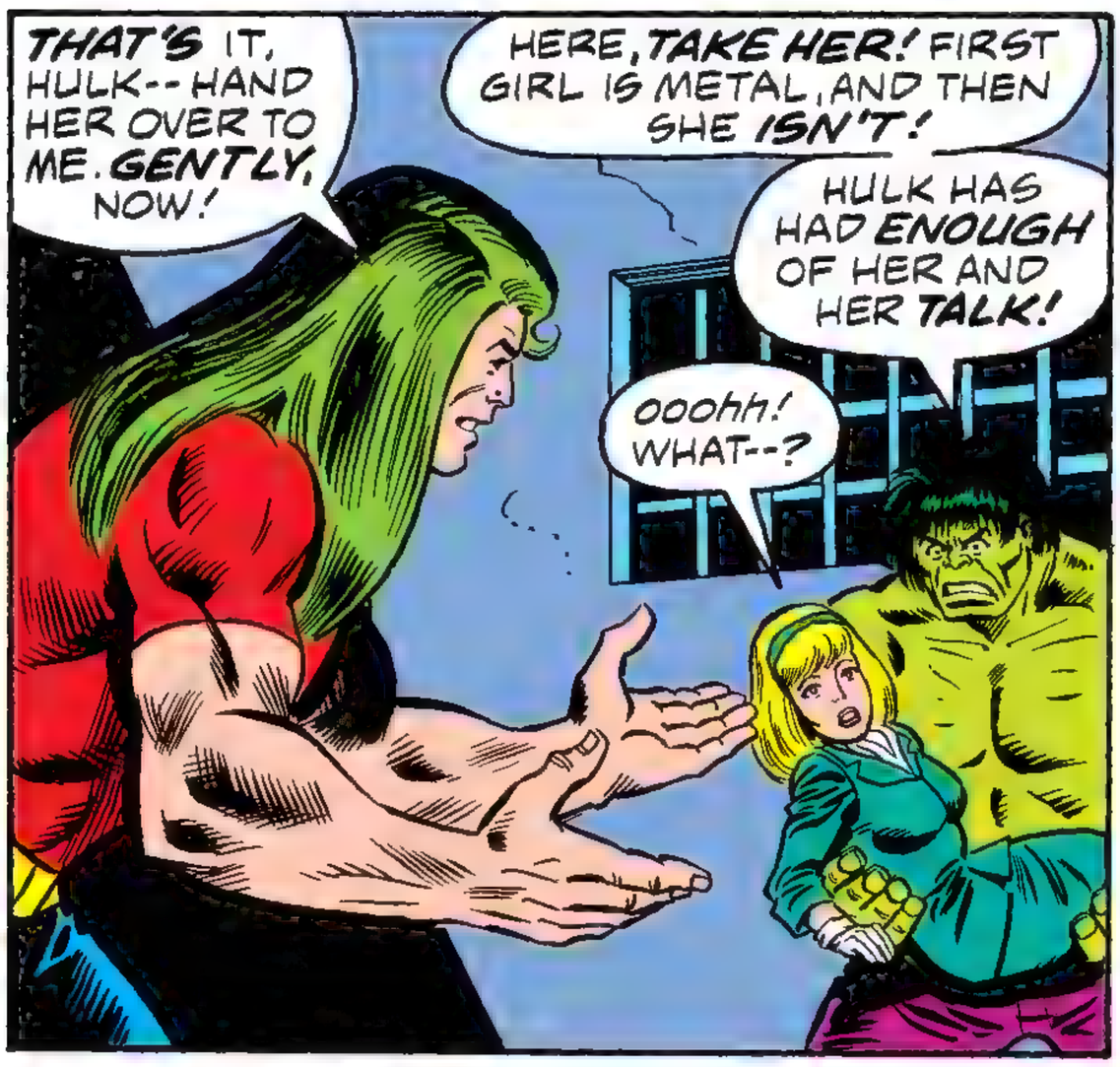
HULK, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? NO ONE THINKS YOU'RE A MONSTER!
FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, PUT KARLA DOWN!

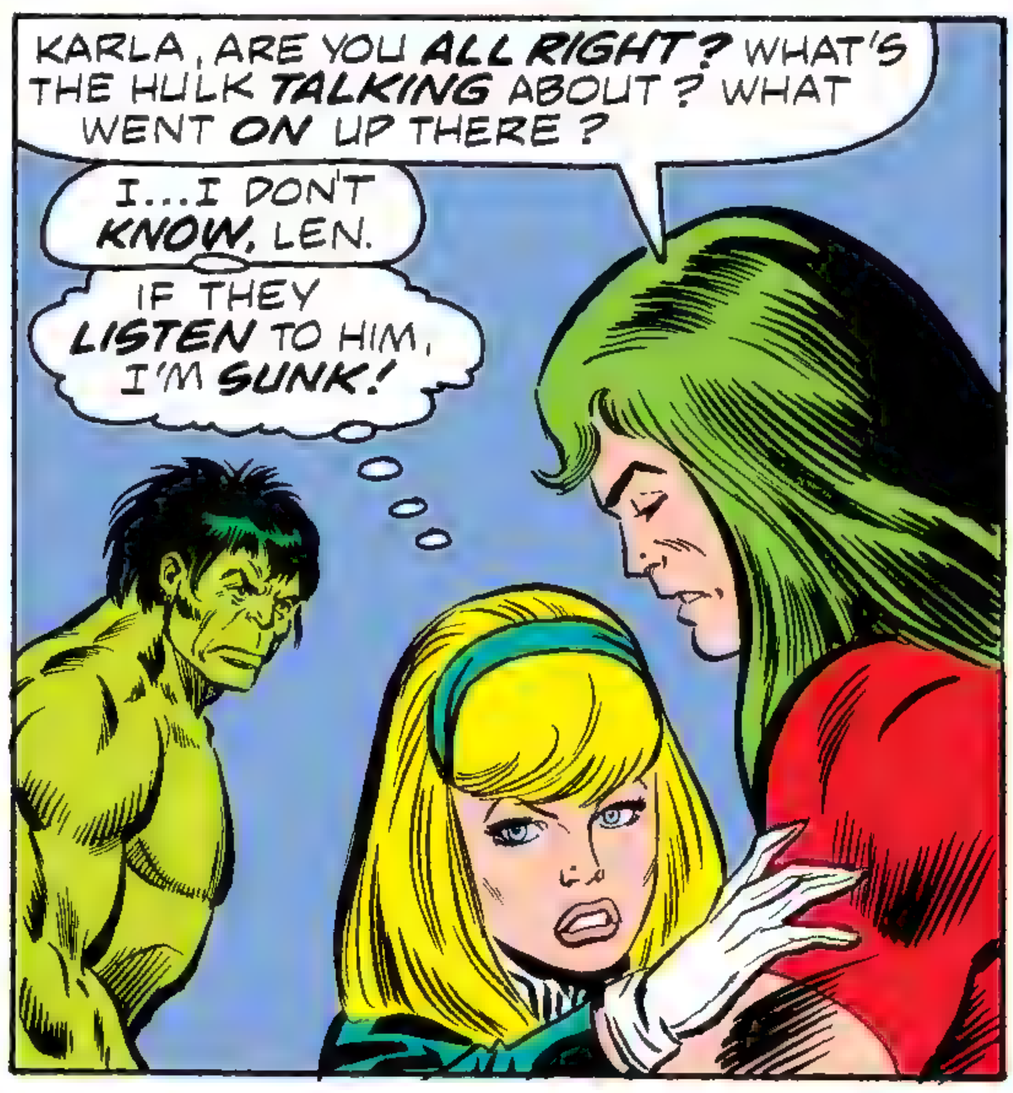

KARLA? WHAT?!
WHERE IS METAL LADY?
HULK DID NOT GRAB GIRL DOCTOR!

HULK, I DON'T KNOW WHAT IS TROUBLING YOU, BUT WE CAN WORK IT OUT! WE WANT TO BE YOUR FRIENDS ... TRULY!

BUT METAL LADY SAID.. HULK KNOWS... HOW--?
BAH!

NOTHING MAKES SENSE! HULK MIGHT AS WELL DO WHAT SAMSON SAYS.


THAT'S IT, HULK-- HAND HER OVER TO ME. GENTLY, NOW!
HERE, TAKE HER! FIRST GIRL IS METAL, AND THEN SHE ISN'T!
HULK HAS HAD ENOUGH OF HER AND HER TALK!
OOOHH! WHAT--?


KARLA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? WHAT'S THE HULK TALKING ABOUT? WHAT WENT ON UP THERE?
I...I DON'T KNOW, LEN.
IF THEY LISTEN TO HIM, I'M SUNK!

THEY'LL NOT ONLY LEARN THAT I'M THE NEW **MOON-STONE**, BUT THEY'LL PROBABLY DISCOVER THAT I ROBBED THEIR **STORAGE VAULTS** OF SOME HIGHLY CLASSIFIED **COMPONENTS!**

GOT TO THINK **FAST!**

WAY TO GO, HULK! I **KNEW** YOU WOULDN'T HURT NO ONE-- **'SPECIALLY** THE LADY DOC!

WHAT UPSET YOU, HULK? WHAT **HAPPENED?**

HULK IS...NOT **SURE.**

WAIT! THOSE **GAS LINES** ARE THE ANSWER!

--**STABBING** INTO A NEARBY CLUSTER OF PRESSURIZED GAS LINES!

AND, **UNSEEN** BY THE OTHERS, KARLA SENDS A DAGGER OF **COHERENT** LIGHT--

THE RESULTS ARE **QUITE** DISRUPTIVE!

Unh?! PIPES **BLOWING UP--?**

WHUMP

SAMSON, GET BACK!!

Wha--?

-- A BIG ONE!

KA-BOOM

DEEP WITHIN THE HULK'S MUDDLED MIND, BRUCE BANNER **SCREAMS** KNOWING THAT THE **SMALL EXPLO-SION** CAN ONLY TRIGGER--

DOC, ARE YOU TWO **OKAY?**

I *THINK* SO. THAT SECOND BLOWOUT MUST'VE SEALED THE GAS LEAK.

BUT THE **HULK**-- WHAT ABOUT THE **HULK?**

:*unngh*: PUNY **EXPLOSION** CANNOT HURT THE HULK! HULK IS THE STRONGEST ONE THERE IS!

HULK, YOU **SAVED** US! I MIGHT HAVE **SURVIVED** THAT EXPLOSION, BUT KARLA--!

SAMSON! GET GET YOUR HANDS **OFF** HULK!

HULK, FOR ONCE IN YOUR MISBEGOTTEN LIFE, **SHUT UP!** THERE ARE **NEWSMEN** HERE... **LOTS** OF THEM! I'M TRYING TO SAVE **BOTH** OUR HIDES!

EH?

THERE, YOU **SEE**, GENTLEMEN? THE HULK **CAN** BECOME A VALUABLE MEMBER OF **SOCIETY!**

HE GOT DR. SOFEN OUT OF THAT **DANGEROUS BUILDING** AND SAVED US FROM THE EXPLOSION! HE'S A **HERO!**

HERO?

SURE YOU ARE, FELLA! YOU DID **JUST FINE!**

THE THERAPY IS **WORKING!** HE'S ACTUALLY BECOMING **DOCILE!** THIS IS **WONDERFUL!**

HULK, M'MAN. YOU'VE **DONE** IT! **AWRIGHT!**

IT SEEMS TO GOOD TO BE **TRUE.**

YES, BOYS--BEFORE TOO LONG, THE HULK WILL BE A FULLY **RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN.** AND YOU CAN **QUOTE** ME!

HOPE I'M NOT LAYING IT ON **TOO THICK,** BUT AFTER THE GENERAL'S OUTBURST THE OTHER DAY*, GAMMA BASE COULD USE ALL THE **GOOD PUBLICITY** IT CAN GET!

WHAT'S **WITH** THE GENERAL, ANYWAY? MAYBE I SHOULD CHECK HIM OVER.

*LAST ISSUE--BOB.

BUT GENERAL ROSS'S MENTAL HEALTH IS THE **LEAST** OF SAMSON'S WORRIES RIGHT NOW...

THAT SMUG **FOOL!**

JUST **LOOK** AT HIM! HIM AND HIS **TRAINED MONSTER!** WELL, YOUR PET PATIENT ISN'T SO **CIVILIZED,** DOCTOR!

I CAN **UPSET** ALL YOUR THERAPY WITH ONE LITTLE **FINGER**

:ARRGH:

MEN TRY TO **TRICK** HULK! ATTACK THE HULK **BEHIND HIS BACK!**

OH, NO.

HULK, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?! NOBODY'S ATTACKING YOU

YOU LIE!

HULK, LISTEN TO MEEEE--:-

NO!

EVERY TIME HULK HAS LISTENED TO SAMSON, HULK HAS BEEN ATTACKED!

I KNEW IT! I KNEW IT WOULDN'T WORK!

GET THOSE TANKS IN HERE! I WANT THAT BIG, GREEN GORILLA BLASTED TO KINGDOM COME!

SO-- EVERYONE IS HULK'S FRIEND?!

LIES! ALL LIES!!

BUT HULK WILL *SMASH* YOUR LIES ... SMASH YOUR *TANKS*...

...*SMASH EVERYTHING!*

HE *MEANS* IT, TOO! MAYBE ... MAYBE WE BETTER *SPLIT!*

YOU CAN IF YA WANT, PAL! I JUST GOT WORD THAT WE'RE JOININ' THE NETWORK-- LIVE-- IN 60 SECONDS!

EVERY DAY OF HULK'S LIFE, HULK HAS BEEN *LIED* TO! AFTER TONIGHT, NO ONE WILL *EVER* LIE TO THE HULK *AGAIN!*

SCATTER! HE'S GOING TO--!

NO, *WAIT!* WHAT'S *THAT* ... UP IN THE *SKY?*

THE SKY ABOVE GAMMA BASE SUDDENLY GLOWS WITH A LIGHT **BRIGHTER** THAN THE SUN, MOMENTARILY **BLINDING** THOSE BELOW.

AND WHEN THEY CAN AGAIN SEE. MANY CANNOT BELIEVE THEIR EYES!

STOP, HULK! YOU SHALL THREATEN THESE INNOCENTS NO LONGER!

BZOW

SUCH IS THE POWER OF... THE MOONSTONE!

SO, THE METAL LADY IS BACK! HULK SEES IT ALL NOW!

IT WAS MOONSTONE WHO MADE HULK MAD* ...MOONSTONE WHO HAS BEEN ATTACKING HULK!

*LAST ISSUE - BOB

BUT MOONSTONE WON'T ATTACK THE HULK ANYMORE!

ACROSS THE NATION, LATE NIGHT TV-VIEWERS ARE SUDDENLY **SHAKEN** BY FOUR WORDS ON THEIR SCREENS :

LIVE FROM GAMMA BASE

...THIS **SPECIAL REPORT!** THE INCREDIBLE **HULK**, PRESENTLY HELD HERE AT GAMMA BASE FOR TREATMENT, HAS **BROKEN LOOSE** IN A MANIACAL **ATTACK--**

--SLOWED **ONLY** BY THE EFFORTS OF A YOUNG WOMAN CALLING HERSELF **MOONSTONE.**

WHAT CONNECTION THIS WOMAN MAY HAVE WITH THE FORMER **SUPER-CRIMINAL** OF THAT NAME* IS **UNKNOWN--**

*CAPTAIN AMERICA #170-175-- BOB.

--BUT AT **PRESENT,** SHE SEEMS TO BE THE ONLY THING STANDING BETWEEN THIS BASE AND **CATASTROPHE!**

MOREOVER, SHE ACTUALLY APPEARS TO BE HOLDING HER OWN AGAINST THE HULK'S RAMPAGING ATTACK.

YOU CANNOT DODGE THE HULK FOREVER, MOONSTONE! HULK NEVER GETS TIRED...

...HULK GETS STRONGER!!

LOOKS LIKE I HOOFED IT BACK HERE JUST IN TIME!

MOONSTONE, GET *OUT* OF HERE! *I'LL* HANDLE THE HULK!

SAMSON? WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO *SMASH* YOU?!

DIDN'T YOU *HEAR* ME? GET *OUT* OF HERE--YOU'RE DRIVING HIM INTO A *FRENZY!*

THAT'S THE *IDEA*, DOCTOR.

SAMSON--

--STOP YELLING IN HULK'S EAR!

OH... LET THE HULK HIT SAMSON FOR A WHILE! I'M TAKING A *BREATHER!*

THE M.P.'S HAVE *CLEARED* THE AREA ANYWAY--THERE'S NO ONE AROUND TO PLAY *HERO* FOR!

:PHEW: I'VE CERTAINLY COME A *LONG WAY* FROM THE DAYS WHEN I WAS AN ASSISTANT TO *DR. FAUSTUS!*

"I REMEMBER HOW CAPTAIN AMERICA *RUINED* FAUSTUS' PLAN TO LOOT NEW YORK CITY FROM AN AIRBORNE *747.**

"IF THE OVERHEAD STORAGE COMPARTMENTS WERE ANY *SMALLER*, I'D HAVE *NEVER* GOTTEN AWAY!

*CAP#192--B.

"UNLIKE THE OTHERS, I HAD NO *CRIMINAL RECORD*. IN FACT, ONLY *FAUSTUS* KNEW THAT HIS '*GUN MOLL*' WAS A RESPECTED *PSYCHIATRIST*.

"WITHOUT MY KNOWLEDGE OF THE MIND, I COULD NEVER HAVE *STOLEN* THE ORIGINAL MOONSTONE'S POWERS!

...AND YOUR GOVERNMENT WOULD BE *VERY* GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD '*CURE*' MOONSTONE. IT COSTS US A *FORTUNE* TO KEEP HIM IN THIS *SPECIAL CELL!*

I'LL DO MY *BEST*, WARDEN.

"ONCE I WAS LEFT *ALONE* WITH MY '*PATIENT*'...

WHAT'S WITH THE *NOSE-COZY*, LADY? I-- *HEY!*

I ALWAYS WEAR IT--

--WHEN I'M GAS-SING *MONSTERS!* AND THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE... A *MONSTER!*

OH, NO-- *NO!!*

"USING *HALLUCINOGENIC GAS* IN COORDINATION WITH THE TOTAL *VOICE CONTROL* I LEARNED FROM FAUSTUS, I TALKED HIM INTO A *HYPERPSYCHOSIS!*

THE *MOONSTONE* HAS MADE YOU A MONSTER! REJECT IT-- *REJECT IT!*

G-GET IT *AWAY* FROM ME!

TAKE IT!

BUT OF COURSE!

"THE MOMENT I CLUTCHED THE STONE, I KNEW I HAD THE POWER I HAD SOUGHT ALL MY LIFE!

WHA-*BOOM*

WHAT THE DEVIL--? THAT CAME FROM MOONSTONE'S CELL!

CRIPES, I KNEW WE NEVER SHOULDA LEFT THAT LADY SHRINK IN THERE ALONE!

"AS FAR AS THE GUARDS KNEW, MOONSTONE HAD EXPENDED HIS POWER IN ONE GREAT PSYCHIC TRAUMA. AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I TOLD THEM.

"MOONSTONE'S MIND WAS TOO FAR GONE FOR HIM TO CONTEST MY EXPLANATION.

THEY'D NEVER DREAM THAT I ABSORBED THE POWER--AND THE ARMOR-- OF MOONSTONE INTO MY OWN BODY!

SAY, IT'S GOTTEN AWFULLY QUIET! WHAT'S--

"--GOING ON?"

YOU THINK YOU'RE STRONG, SAMSON--BUT HULK IS STRONGER!

HULK, I KNOW YOUR STRENGTH, BELIEVE ME! I WANT TO HELP--!

YES, YOU WANT TO HELP! YOU WANT TO HELP MOONSTONE HURT HULK!

BUT HULK WILL NOT LET YOU!

BEFORE SAMSON CAN REACT, THE HURTLING TANK HITS HIM--**HARD**--**POUNDING** THE GAMMA-POWERED TITAN DEEP INTO THE **TARMAC!**

AND THEN...

YOU--**MOONSTONE!** NOW HULK WILL SMASH **YOU!**

YOU CANNOT **HIDE** FROM THE HULK BEHIND THAT **BUILDING!**

WHEREVER YOU GO, HULK WILL **FOLLOW!**

NO! I CAN'T GIVE HIM A CHANCE TO PULL THAT TANK TRICK ON **ME!**

I'VE GOT TO GET **OUT OF HERE!**

BUT AS MOONSTONE DESPERATELY TRIES TO ESCAPE...

THE HULK'S PLAYED HOB WITH MY COMMAND FOR THE **LAST TIME!** THIS **GAMMA-BLASTER** WILL DROP HIM! BY **THUNDER,** IT WILL!

NEITHER OF THE SUPER-COMBATANTS TAKE NOTICE OF ROSS'S APPROACH. BOTH ARE PREOCCUPIED...

...THE HULK WITH HIS OFFENSIVE...

THAMM

...AND MOONSTONE WITH STAYING ALIVE!

THIS HAS BECOME A NIGHTMARE! I NEVER REALIZED HE COULD BE SO STRONG...SO BRUTAL!

MY 'GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY' TO LOOT GAMMA BASE HAS TURNED TO LEAD--AND I'VE ONLY MY OWN PRIDE TO BLAME!

BUT THERE'S NO TIME FOR SELF-ANALYSIS NOW.

I'VE GOT TO STUN HIM... SLOW HIM DOWN ...SOMETHING...SO I CAN GET AWAY!

YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP THE HULK?! BAH!

NOTHING CAN STOP THE HULK!

SO INTENSE IS THE HEAT OF MOONSTONE'S BLASTS THAT THE VERY ASPHALT BEGINS TO LIQUIFY BENEATH THE GREEN GOLIATH'S FEET...

...BUT STILL, THE HULK KEEPS COMING... CLOSER AND CLOSER!

WHAT DO I DO NOW? HE'S SHRUGGING OFF MY HEAVIEST BLASTS LIKE THEY WERE NOTHING!

A CLEAR SHOT! JUST GIVE ME ONE CLEAR SHOT, AND I'LL DROP HIM... YESSIR!

I DON'T BELIEVE IT! MY LASER BLASTS MUST BE CAUSING HIM EX-CRUCIATING PAIN-- BUT HE'S SO ENRAGED, HE'S WADING RIGHT THROUGH THEM!

YOUR BEE STINGS CAN'T HELP YOU AGAINST THE HULK!

HULK IS A MONSTER, REMEMBER? YOU SAID SO!*

DEAR LORD-- WHAT HAVE I DONE?!

MOONSTONE-- BACK OFF, WOMAN! I'LL STOP HIM!

*LAST ISSUE--BOB.

WHAT?! GENERAL ROSS?! BUT HOW CAN--? THAT IS... I... I...

NO! NO! IT'S ALL TOO MUCH ...CAN'T... CONCENTRATE--!

DOC... DOCTOR... SOFEN?

I...I DON'T... UNDERSTAND. YOU...YOU... HOW?

DAMN.

SO...DOCTOR IS THE METAL LADY!

FOR A MOMENT, THE BEHEMOTH'S RAGE IS CHECKED BY THE REVELATION. AND THEN...

WELL, I GUESS THE JIG IS UP! I MIGHT AS WELL ADMIT IT.

I... CAN'T... BELIEVE...

SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH ROSS--?

YES, HULK... BUT SOMETHING MAY BE VERY RIGHT FOR ME!

CONFUSED, GENERAL? AM I YOUR DOCTOR... YOUR FRIEND... YOUR ENEMY?

AM I YOUR LOVER... YOUR WIFE... YOUR DAUGHTER? WHAT AM I? WHO AM I? WHO?!

KARLA'S STACCATO CHANGES--HER STRIDENT, STINGING QUESTIONS--ARE TOO MUCH FOR THE TIRED, OLD SOLDIER...

YOU HURT ROSS WITH WORDS ...LIKE YOU TRIED TO HURT HULK!

...AND COMING AFTER MONTHS OF MENTAL ANGUISH, THEY PUSH HIM INTO TOTAL NERVOUS BREAKDOWN.

N-NO, HULK --YOU'RE WRONG!

YOU CALLED HULK A MONSTER ...BUT YOU ARE THE MONSTER! YOU!

LEN! OH, LEN--HELP ME!

Umh?

THAT...TANK COULDN'T KEEP ME...BURIED FOREVER, HULK! WHAT...

...WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO THE GENERAL?!

I MUST HAVE BEEN MAD TO THINK I COULD CURE YOU! YOU ARE A MONSTER!

WHAM

SHUT UP!

HULK DOES NOT NEED CURING, SAMSON! HULK IS NOT SICK-- ROSS IS SICK!

YES, AND GIRL IS SICK, TOO!

YOU WANT TO CURE SOMEONE, CURE THEM!

RUN, HULK! YOU'D BETTER RUN! AFTER TONIGHT, THE PUBLIC WILL BE SCREAMING FOR YOUR HEAD!

AND, BY GOD, I JUST MIGHT HELP THEM GET IT!

NEXT THE HARVESTER FROM BEYOND!

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THE HARVESTER FROM BEYOND!

THE GREAT AMERICAN HEARTLAND MAY WELL HAVE SEEN A GREENER YEAR FOR CORN, BUT IT CERTAINLY HAS **NEVER** SEEN A GREENER **GOURMET!**

THE CORN-PICKER IN QUESTION IS THE EVER-INCREDIBLE **HULK**--AND DESPITE HIS ANGRY DEMEANOR ONE MIGHT ALMOST THINK HE WAS ENJOYING THIS BUCOLIC MOMENT...

MOTHER OF **MERCY!** WHAT'S THAT.. **THING** DOING IN MY CORN?!

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C-776

BRI!!!NG!

DANG IT! CAN'T I HAVE A MOMENT'S PEACE?

PICK UP THE EXTEN-SION, BURT, AND WE'LL SEE WHAT SOME FINE CITIZEN WANTS!

HULLO SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

HUH? SLOW DOWN THERE, LUMPY!

YOU BEEN DIPPIN' IN THE SOUR MASH AGAIN?

THE HULK AIN'T NO SOUR MASH DAYDREAM, SHERIFF!

SURE, I'M SURE IT'S HIM. I SEEN THOSE NEWS REPORTS OF HIM TEARIN' UP THAT AIR FORCE BASE!*

AWRIGHT, LUMPY, I BELIEVE YOU. I'LL BE RIGHT OUT.

YEAH, BURT, TOO--HE WOULDN'T MISS THIS, NOSSIR!

*LAST ISSUE--ROG.

FIVE MINUTES AND ONE PILE OF CORN-COBS LATER...

WILL YA LOOK AT THAT?!

HE'S BIGGER THAN A TRACTOR! SHOULDN'T YA CALL THE ARMY OR--?

TO HELL WITH THE ARMY--

--WE'RE HANDLIN' THIS *OURSELVES!*

THAT'S *RIGHT*, ZEB! BRING ALL THE MEN YOU CAN *FIND*... AND YOUR OLD *FISHIN' NET!*

SHERIFF, DON'T YOU *THINK--!*

BLAST IT, LUMPY! KEEP YOUR PANTS ON! EVERYTHING'LL BE FINE--

"--AS SOON AS THE *BOYS* SHOW UP!"

AWRIGHT, NOW *LISTEN UP!* I DON'T WANT ANYBODY *HURT* IN THIS--

--SO DON'T GO GETTIN' *OVER-CONFIDENT!*

ONLY ONE HERE'S OVERCONFIDENT IS *YOU*, SHERIFF!

PERHAPS EVEN THE *SHERIFF'S* CONFIDENCE WOULD BE SHAKEN IF HE BUT KNEW...

...THAT *SOMETHING ELSE* WAS WATCHING *HIM* WATCH THE HULK!

THE OTHERS TRY TO *CAPTURE* THE ONE WHO IS THE COLOR OF *VEGETATION*. HE MUST HAVE THE *SECRET!*

OKAY, BOYS-- NOW!

RUSH HIM!!

HUNH?!

MEN ARE ATTACKING THE HULK WITH... STRING?!

AND NOW THEY SHOOT AT HULK?!

WHY?! HULK WASN'T HURTING ANYONE...WHY DO MEN ATTACK HIM?

ANSWER THE HULK-- WHY?!

BUT THERE IS NO ANSWER FROM THE ASSEMBLED FARMERS--

--THEY'RE TOO BUSY TRYING TO EVADE HIS SWEEPING **BLOWS!!**

BILLY-BOB, **LOOK OUT!**

THERE IS A MOMENT OF **CONFUSION**, OF WILD **SCRAMBLING**, AND THEN...

BRING ON THE **HARDWARE**, BOYS!

SHERIFF--?

HEY, THAT'S MY **CORNFIELD**... MY **CROPS**!

OMIGOD.

"MY TRACTOR!"

LEAVE... HULK...

...ALONE!

BEATING BACK THE RAIN OF BULLETS AND HOME-GROWN SMUGNESS IS THE UNBRIDLED **FURY** OF AN ALMOST **ELEMENTAL CREATURE** WITH THE MIND OF A **CHILD.**

HE'S A CREATURE **MISUNDERSTOOD**... IMPOSED UPON... **VIOLATED** DOZENS OF TIMES TOO OFTEN. NOW HIS ONLY **POSSIBLE RESPONSE** GOES FAR BEYOND HIS POWER TO EXPRESS IN ANY WAY... OTHER THAN TO SMASH...

...AND SMASH...

...AND **SMASH!**

SURELY, IF THERE WERE A POETRY OF UNLEASHED **SAVAGERY**, THEN THIS RAMPAGING HULK WOULD BE ITS **BARD**.

THAT'S IT--**RUN!** RUN FROM **THE HULK**--

--NOW THAT YOU'VE **SMASHED** ALL OF HULK'S **CORN**.

SO **INTENT** IS THE SADDENED BEHEMOTH ON THE RAVAGED FIELDS THAT HE DOES NOT **NOTICE** THE SPACECRAFT RAPIDLY DESCENDING TOWARDS HIM--

--UNTIL A BRILLIANT ENERGY BEAM SUDDENLY ENVELOPES HIM...

Eh?

...REDUCING HIM TO **SUB-ATOMIC COMPONENTS!**

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO HUL--?

AND **INSTANTANEOUSLY**, THE HULK FINDS HIMSELF TRANSPORTED INTO A VERY **DIFFERENT** ENVIRONMENT.

HUNH? HULK IS IN A ROOM FULL OF... **DEAD PLANTS?**

AND THE **MASTER** OF THIS PLACE IS QUITE AS ALIEN AS **ANYTHING** THE HULK HAS EVER SEEN...

YOU... **BUG-THING!** YOU BROUGHT HULK TO THIS PLACE?!

MOST **CURIOUS!** THE SUBJECT'S BODILY STRUCTURE SEEMS **SIMILAR** TO THAT OF HIS FELLOW CREATURES. YET THE WAY THEY WERE **ACTING** ...HE **MUST** POSSESS THE SECRET!

OH!

MY! ITS STRENGTH IS **REMARKABLE!**

BAH! BUG-THING IS NOT WORTH HULK'S **TIME!**

NO ONE TAKES HULK WHERE HE DOESN'T WANT TO GO!

BUT AS THE ANGRY MAN-MONSTER HEADS FOR WHAT SEEMS TO BE A **HATCH--**

--THE ALIEN SUDDENLY EXTENDS ONE LIMB THROUGH HIS BODY!

IF I JUST DECORP-OREALIZE MY PRONGS LONG ENOUGH TO TWIST A FEW INTERNAL ORGANS--!

YEEARGH!

WHAT'S THIS?! HE'S STILL CON-SCIOUS!

I'LL JUST HAVE TO HEAVILY SEDATE HIM FOR MY EXAMINATION

NOW WHAT? BUG-THING TRIES TO STOP HULK WITH FUNNY LIGHT?!

HULK WILL SHOW STUPID-- EH?

IT SEEMS BE-WILDERED. ITS KIND MUST NOT BE ABLE TO ALTER THEIR BODILY SUBSTANCE.

HOW INTERESTING, THOUGH-- ITS STRENGTH APPAR-ENTLY INCREASES IN PROPORTION TO ITS RAGE!

I MUST INCREASE THE INTENSITY OF THE SEDATION BEAM ...AH, THERE WE GO!

REALLY, A MOST INTERESTING SPECIMEN!

HOW CURIOUS! EXCEPT FOR ITS SKIN PIGMENTATION, ITS BODY SEEMS LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS...

...EXCEPT FOR A NOTICEABLY HIGH INTERNAL RADIATION LEVEL...hmm!

I MUST PROCESS THIS DATA--IT COULD WELL HOLD THE SALVATION OF MY HOMEWORLD!

BUT AS THE SEDATION BEAM SHINES CONTINUALLY ON THE GREAT GREEN BRUTE, THE MYSTERIOUS FORCES OF HIS MIGHTY BODY RELAX.

THE RAGE OF THE PAST DAY GIVES WAY TO THE OBLIVION OF SLUMBER... MUSCLES SLACKEN...THEN SOFTEN... THEN PHYSICALLY SHRINK.

AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OVER A WEEK, THE BODY OF THE HULK GIVES WAY TO THE FORM OF DR. ROBERT BRUCE BANNER...

...A FORM THAT EASILY SLIPS FROM THE HULK-SIZED BONDS--

--AND FALLS UNCONSCIOUS TO THE DECK... JUST OUT OF RANGE OF THE ALIEN RAY.

SEVERAL MILES **BELOW**, IN THE HOSPITAL WARD OF NEW MEXICO'S **GAMMA BASE**, GENERAL THUNDERBOLT ROSS LIES UNDER **ANOTHER** FORM OF SEDATION--

--THIS ONE ADMINISTERED BY **DR. LEN SAMSON** AS PRELIMINARY TREATMENT FOR A COMPLETE **NERVOUS COLLAPSE.***

*SEE LAST ISSUE--R.

DAMMIT, WHY DIDN'T I SEE THIS BREAKDOWN **COMING**? THE SIGNS WERE ALL THERE--**OVER-WORK, WORRY** OVER HIS COMMAND, **DEPRESSION** OVER HIS DAUGHTER LEAVING.

A FINE PSYCHIATRIST I AM!

LEN, YOU'VE GOT TO QUIT **BLAMING** YOURSELF!

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THE LADY'S **RIGHT**, DOC! THE GENERAL'S BREAKDOWN WASN'T **YOUR FAULT!**

EVEN **SO**, JIM, I SHOULD HAVE--!

PARDON ME FOR **IN-TERUPTING**, LEN, BUT WE JUST GOT A CALL FROM **WASHINGTON.** A COUPLE OF SENATORS ARE FLYING OUT--

--AND FROM THE **SOUND** OF THINGS, THEY'RE NOT AT **ALL** HAPPY WITH OUR OPERATIONS HERE.

GREAT, JUST **GREAT.** KARLA, YOU'LL WATCH OVER THE GENERAL FOR ME?

OF **COURSE**, LEN...

AND THE CAREFULLY MAINTAINED **FACADE** OF DR. KARLA SOFEN **CRACKS**... EVER SO BRIEFLY.

...IT'S ONLY FAIR THAT THE ONE WHO **TRIGGERED** ROSS'S BREAKDOWN SHOULD SEE TO HIS... "**RECOVERY**"!

MEANWHILE, HIGH IN THE UPPER STRATOSPHERE, THE **NEWLY REVIVED** DR. BANNER IS BUSILY PUTTING HIS MIND TO DISCOVERING...

WHERE THE DEVIL **AM** I?! THIS DOESN'T LOOK LIKE ANY **GAMMA BASE LAB** I'VE EVER SEEN!*

*BANNER WAS LAST "HIMSELF" AT THE BASE IN **HULK #227**-- ROG.

HEH! IF I DIDN'T **KNOW** BETTER, I'D SWEAR THESE WERE THE CONTROLS FOR SOME SORT OF...

...SPACECRAFT?

uh-oh

WHAT IS **THIS**?!

WHY AM I **HERE**? WHAT DO YOU **WANT**? CAN YOU **UNDERSTAND** ME?

THE CREATURE HAS CHANGED IN BOTH **SIZE** AND **COLOR**-- I MUST INVESTIGATE THIS AT **ONCE**!

PRIOR ANALYSIS HAS SHOWN **TOO LITTLE**. THE ONLY RECOURSE I HAVE IS **DISSECTION**.

WHAT ARE YOU ... **OH, NO.**

I REGRET SACRIFICING SUCH AN INTERESTING SPECIMEN, BUT MY RACE'S WELFARE MUST COME FIRST.

NO... NO!!

THE ALIEN DRAWS HIS HYPERSONIC SCALPEL, LITTLE AWARE THAT HE'S STARTING HIS SPECIMEN'S SYSTEM POUNDING...

...TRIGGERING ONCE AGAIN THE MOST UNCANNY TRANSFORMATION OF ALL!

SNAP

NO!

DAK-KOOM

EVERYWHERE THE HULK GOES, HULK IS ***ATTACKED!***

MEN ATTACK HULK... ***BUG-THING*** ATTACKS HULK...

DOONG

...BUT ***NO MORE!*** NOW IT IS ***THE HULK*** WHO ATTACKS!

HE... HAS ***RESUMED*** HIS VEGETATIVE COLOR AND GREATER MASS! WHAT DOES THIS ***MEAN?!***

HULK WILL ***END*** THEM... ***NOW!***

OH, DEAR!

HULK HAS HAD ***ENOUGH*** OF YOUR SQUEAKY BUG-NOISES!

I MUST KEEP THIS CREATURE AT BAY UNTIL I CAN SEDATE IT AGAIN!

Uh?!

BUG-THING THINKS TO STOP HULK, BUT HE ONLY MAKES HULK MADDER...

...STRONGER!

NOW! IF I MOVE FASTER THAN THE CREATURE EXPECTS...

... I CAN USE ITS OWN MOMENTUM TO HURL IT AGAINST THE TELEPORTER FORCE FIELD!

THAT SHOULD STUN IT LONG ENOUGH!

Oh, my!

BUH-THOOM

I MISCALCULATED!

SHIELDED FROM THE BLAST BY THE HULK'S OWN BODY, THE SLIGHTLY **MAD** INTER-STELLAR VISITOR IS UNFAZED BY ANYTHING SAVE THE FACT THAT...

HE IS STILL **INTACT!** THIS IS MY **CHANCE!**

YES, THIS **PROTONIC-BLADE!** THIS IS MY **CHANCE!**

MY ANALYSIS COULD NOT FIND A **SINGLE PART** OF THIS CREATURE'S BODY THAT WAS RELATED TO THE CREATION OF **FOODSTUFFS.**

BUT SINCE ITS FELLOW BEINGS WANTED IT SO BADLY, I **KNOW** ITS BODY MUST HOLD THE SECRET.

AND NOW I REALIZE THAT THERE **IS** ONE PART OF ITS BODY WITHOUT APPARENT FUNCTION. THE SECRET MUST RESIDE **THERE...**

...I MUST **HAVE** IT!

SURELY THESE **CHEMICAL DEPOSITS** THE CREATURE STORES UNDER ITS CALCIUM NODULES HOLD SOME MYSTERIOUS **PROPERTIES.**

AND THE ALIEN FROM A FAR OFF, WAR-RAVAGED PLANET--HIS MIND **ADDLED** BY THE LONG SEARCH FOR THE SECRET OF FOOD PRODUCTION--GIVES THE COMATOSE HULK A **MANICURE!**

Unhh... WHERE IS HULK?

WHAT?! STILL WITH THE BUG-THING?!

OH!

MY SAMPLES! HE MUSTN'T TAKE MY SAMPLES!

Unh?

THANG

BAH! HULK HAS HAD ENOUGH OF THIS CRAZY PLACE!

HULK WILL LEAVE...

...NOW!

AND WITH NARY A BACKWARD GLANCE, THE EMERALD MAN-MONSTER BLITHELY LEAPS OFF INTO MID-AIR--

--LEAVING A RAPIDLY DEPRESSURIZING CABIN BEHIND HIM!

OH, DEAR! I MUST PATCH THIS AT ONCE! I MUST NOT LOSE MY SAMPLES!

THEY ARE PRECIOUS ...EVER SO PRECIOUS!

ALIENS PULL AT HIM **ONE WAY**... HUMANS PULL **ANOTHER**...AND EMOTIONS PULL IN **ALL DIRECTIONS** AT ONCE--BUT GRAVITY IS A FORCE ON WHICH **THE HULK** CAN **COUNT!**

IT ALWAYS BRINGS HIM BACK TO EARTH... **SOMEWHERE!**

THOOM

AS HE BOUNDS ON HIS WAY, HE DOES NOT **NOTICE** THE OUNCE OR SO OF DIRT THAT WEDGES UNDER THE **NAILS** OF HIS FINGERS AND TOES...

...DIRT THAT REPLACES THE **FERTILE SOIL** ACQUIRED IN A MIDWESTERN CORNFIELD.

ALL THAT MATTERS TO THE HULK IS THAT HE IS ONCE AGAIN **FREE**...

...FREE TO FIND HIS **DESTINY!**

FOR THE BUG-LIKE ALIEN, DESTINY IS PERHAPS **KINDER.**

IN CLEANING THE HULK'S NAILS HE HAS STUMBLED ACROSS AN IDEAL **NURTURING SUBSTANCE** FOR PLANT LIFE.

HE WILL **SYNTHESIZE** THE SOIL'S CHEMICAL STRUCTURE AND PROBABLY **SAVE** HIS STARVING WORLD...

...IF HE CAN ONLY REMEMBER **WHERE** AMONG THE STARS HE **LEFT** IT!

NEXT **CHAOS IN CALIFORNIA!**

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PRELUDE!

AFTER HOURS OF TRAMPING THROUGH THE HIGH **TIMBER COUNTRY** OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, THE HULK HAS CHANCED UPON THE QUIET LITTLE TOWN OF **GILBERT, CALIFORNIA.**

IT WILL NOT **REMAIN** VERY QUIET FOR LONG.

SGAS

ROGER STERN, WRITER

SAL BUSCEMA, MIKE ESPOSITO, ARTISTS

ANNETTE K., LETTERER

BOB SHAREN, COLORIST

JO DUFFY, EDITOR

JIM SHOOTER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

LG/80

TONIGHT--OR, IF YOU PREFER, THIS MORNING--THIS THOUSAND POUND MASS OF BOTTLED RAGE HAS ENDED HIS EVENING OF SOLITUDE--AND, MOSTLY OUT OF CURIOUSITY...

TAVERN

GUS TAVERN

...HE HEADS FOR THE ONLY PLACE IN TOWN THAT SHOWS ANY SIGN OF ACTIVITY AT TWO A.M.

IT'S CALLED GUS'S TAVERN, AND THE ACTIVITIES THEREIN ARE NOT ALWAYS SO PLEASANT.

GUS'S TAVERN

HEY!

THE ANGRY BEHEMOTH STANDS IN PUZZLED FASCINATION. HE HAS SEEN MEN FLY BEFORE, BUT NEVER QUITE LIKE THIS.

WHY, YOU STUPID REDNECK!

YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THAT!

WHOUFF!

WHO YOU CALLIN' A *REDNECK?!*

I *SWEAR*, I TRIED MY BEST TO BE TOL'RENT, BUT YOU LONG-HAIR BUMS JUST KEEP PUSHIN' AN' *PUSHIN'*.

WELL, I AIN'T TAKIN' IT *NO MORE!*

IT'S BAD ENOUGH YA GOTTA *LIVE* AROUND HERE--

--BUT WHEN YA COME DRINKIN' AT MY... FAVORITE...BAR...I...

OH, GAWD.

ON THE DARK TOWN STREET, THE HULK SEES THE MAN'S UNIFORM JACKET AND JUMPS TO A MISTAKEN CONCLUSION...

SOLDIER IS ATTACKING MAN?!

KRAAA

DRAFT BEER

CRIMINEY! WHO COULDA DONE A THING LIKE THAT TO MOE TAYLOR?

THE DENIZENS OF GUS'S TAVERN ARE REPUTED TO BE HARD MEN...ROUGH MEN...MEN WHO WOULD RATHER BRAWL THAN TALK.

MEN

15 SHOT

BUT THE SIGHT THEY BEHOLD TONIGHT SHAKES THEM TO THE VERY CORE OF THEIR SOULS.

AWRIGHT, ALL I WANTED WAS ANOTHER LOUSY BEER, BUT YOU DIDN'T WANT THAT, DIDJA? YOU WERE TIRED OF SERVING THE HIPPIE...YOU WANTED TO FIGHT!

WELL WHAT' RE YOU WAITING FOR? LET'S FIGHT! ME AND MY BUDDY HERE WILL TAKE YOU ALL ON!

COME ON, WHO'S FIRST?

IN LESS THAN TWENTY SECONDS, GILBERT'S ONLY ALL-NIGHT BAR BECOMES GILBERT'S ONLY ABANDONED BUILDING--

--AS ITS PATRONS DISAPPEAR INTO THE NIGHT, RUNNING AS IF THEIR LIVES DEPENDED ON IT.

YEE-HAH! LOOK AT 'EM GO! THEY'LL THINK TWICE BEFORE THEY HASSLE ANYBODY AGAIN.

AND I OWE IT ALL TO YOU, BIG BUDDY! YOU SAVED MY LIFE TONIGHT--YES, YOU DID!

BAH! LONG-HAIR IS CRAZY! HULK HAS HAD ENOUGH OF CRAZY PEOPLE!

HEY, YOU'VE GOT ME ALL WRONG!

REALLY, I'M NOT CRAZY... WELL, LEAST-WISE I'M NO CRAZIER THAN MOST.

THE WAY I SEE IT, WE'RE BOTH KINDA SOCIAL OUT-CASTS. HEY, GOT A PLACE TO BED DOWN?

UNH?

WELL, YOU DO NOW. FRED SLOAN TAKES GOOD CARE OF HIS FRIENDS.

FRIENDS?

YOU AND ME, PAL--JUST LIKE STARSKY AND HUTCH!

MORNING BRINGS ANOTHER BRIGHT, SUNNY DAY TO THE NEW MEXICAN DESERT...

...BUT FOR THE MEN OF GAMMA BASE, THIS DAY IS ANYTHING BUT ROUTINE.

ACME

FOR THIS MORNING HAS ALSO HERALDED THE ARRIVAL OF TWO VERY IMPORTANT VISITORS FROM WASHINGTON... MEN WHO COULD VERY WELL HOLD THE FATE OF THIS INSTAL-LATION IN THEIR HANDS.

WELCOME TO GAMMA BASE, SENATOR HAWK. I'M DOCTOR LEONARD SAMSON, ACTING COM-MANDER...

I'M WELL AWARE OF WHO YOU ARE, DOCTOR. YOU'RE ONE OF THE REASONS I'M HERE!

FROM WASHINGTON IT LOOKS AS IF YOU'RE RUNNING THIS BASE LIKE A BLASTED CIRCUS! I WANT SOME ANSWERS FROM YOU, SAMSON!

AND I'M SURE YOU'LL BE GET-TING THEM, ANDREW, IF YOU'LL JUST GIVE THE GOOD DOCTOR A CHANCE.

UH, THANK YOU--?

EH? OH, YES-- EXCUSE ME. I KEEP FORGETTING I'M NOT THAT WELL KNOWN WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

SENATOR EUGENE K. STIVAK, DOCTOR. PLEASED TO MEET YOU.

SHORTLY, IN THE BASE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES...

YES, WE WERE QUITE *DISTRESSED* BY GENERAL ROSS'S OUTBURSTS TO THE PRESS*--BUT IN LIGHT OF HIS *NERVOUS BREAKDOWN***--!

IT CAME AS A BIG SHOCK TO *US*, TOO, SENATOR. AND I'M AFRAID IT'S ONLY *ADDED* TO THE PROBLEMS I'M HAVING.

IF IT WEREN'T FOR DR. SOFEN AND MR. QUARTERMAIN HERE, OUR SHIELD LIASON, I DON'T KNOW *WHAT* I'D DO.

*HULK #228 AND **#229--JO.

AS YOU KNOW, GAMMA BASE CONSTITUTES A JOINT *MILITARY-CIVILIAN AGENCY*. NORMALLY, WE ARE HEADED BY A MILITARY COMMANDER--BUT WITH ROSS *INCAPACITATED*, COMMAND FALLS TO ME..., AND... WELL...

...I'M *NO* ADMINISTRATOR.

DAMN RIGHT, YOU'RE NOT.

LOOK, SAMSON, I APPRECIATE YOUR *DIFFICULTIES*, BUT THE FACT REMAINS THAT RIGHT NOW THE *HULK* IS OUT THERE SOMEWHERE, *TERRORIZING* THE COUNTRYSIDE.

NOW, JUST WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO *DO* ABOUT IT?

ANDREW, *ANDREW! CALM* YOURSELF! I'M SURE DOCTOR SAMSON HAS A *CONTINGENCY PLAN* IN THE WORKS. JUST HEAR THE MAN *OUT*.

PLEASE FORGIVE MY COLLEAGUE'S *BLUSTER*, DR. SOFEN. BACK ON THE HILL, WE CALL HIM THE *WEREWOLF OF WASHINGTON!*

ALWAYS *BAYING IN THE MOONLIGHT*, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

"BAYING--?" GOOD LORD, THAT'S MY *CORPORATION CODE-PHRASE* AS THE MOONSTONE*. STIVAK *KNOWS!* BUT HOW--?

*SEE HULK # 228-229--JO.

TALK IS *CHEAP*-- I'LL BET YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE THAT MONSTER *IS!*

WELL, *DO* YOU? *JUST WHERE IS THE HULK?*

BUT RIGHT NOW, SENATOR HAWK IS NOT THE ONLY ONE ASKING THAT QUESTION...

WHERE *IS* HULK?

HUNH! NOW HULK *REMEMBERS.* HULK IS AT FRED'S HOUSE.

BUT WHERE IS *FRED?*

>MMPH< YOU CAN'T DO THAT... HE'S GOT RIGHTS... TOO...

HMPH! FRED NEVER STOPS TALKING... EVEN IN HIS *SLEEP!*

HULK *STILL* THINKS FRED IS CRAZY. HULK SHOULD GO AND --*HUH?*

FOOD! GOOD, HULK IS *HUNGRY.*

GOOD MORNING, FREDDY! I HEARD YOU *SNORING* IN THERE, SO I DECIDED TO LET MYSELF IN AND FIX YOU A LITTLE *BREAK-FAST.*

IT'S YOUR *FAVORITE*-- SCRAMBLED EGGS WITH... BEANS.

EEEYAH!

HUH? WHAZZAT?!

FREDDY! RUN--GET HELP!

ILSA? WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE? WHAT'S THE...OH, I SEE.

DON'T PANIC, LOVELY--HE'S A FRIEND.

A FRIEND?! ARE YOU CRAZY? THAT'S THE HULK!

YEAH, I KNOW HE'S THE HULK, BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY!

HE WON'T HURT YOU, HECK, HE SAVED MY LIFE LAST NIGHT. HE'S ONE OF US--A FREE THINKER!

YOU ARE OUT OF YOUR MIND!

AND I'M NOT SHARING MY LIFE WITH A CRAZY MAN!

ILSA--WAIT!

OH, WELL. SO MUCH FOR MY LOVE LIFE. I WONDER IF HUNTER S. THOMPSON EVER HAS DAYS LIKE THIS.

HAVE SOME FOOD, FRED. THE BEANS ARE GOOD.

NO THANKS, HULK. I'M NOT HUNGRY.

WEEEOOO

SIRENS?! OH, NO... SHE COULDN'T HAVE...SHE DIDN'T...

SHE DID.

COME ON, HULK, WE'VE GOT TO GET *OUT* OF HERE! THE *LAW'S* COMING FOR US!

HUNH? LAW CANNOT MAKE *HULK* LEAVE! HULK WILL *SMASH* STUPID LAW!

NO, *NO!* DON'T DO *THAT!* LISTEN...

SOME FRANTIC PRODDING AND A QUICK CHANGE OF SHIRT LATER...

HULK *STILL* THINKS WE SHOULD STAY AND SMASH LAW!

BELIEVE ME, HULK-- THE *HASSLES* JUST WOULDN'T BE WORTH IT!

SO HURRY AND GET IN... *HEY!* HOW MUCH DO YOU *WEIGH?*

HULK DOES NOT KNOW.

IT'S A GOOD THING THIS BABY HAS *HEAVY-DUTY* SHOCKS.

KRESH!

WELL, HERE GOES NOTHING!

BANZAI!

KRMP!

SHERIFF

WEEEOOO

@#%*-#☆ LONG-HAIRED HIPPIE *WEIRDOS!* IF I EVER GET MY *HANDS* ON YOU, I'LL...I'LL...

BUT EVEN AS FRED AND THE HULK ARE EVADING THE NOT-SO-LONG ARM OF THE GILBERT SHERIFF'S OFFICE--

YEE-HAH! CHALK UP ANOTHER VICTORY FOR THE FREDERICK K. SLOAN *RACING TEAM* AND *PIT CREW!*

--AT GAMMA BASE...

DOC! WE JUST GOT A REPORT FROM THE *CALIFORNIA STATE TROOPERS*-- THE HULK'S BEEN SPOTTED THERE! HE TORE UP SOME SMALL TOWN BAR EARLY THIS *MORNIN'*.

WHAT KIND OF SECURITY DO YOU *HAVE* AROUND HERE, SAMSON? YOU IN THE HABIT OF ALLOWING *KIDS AND DOGS* THE RUN OF THE BASE?

SENATOR, JIM WILSON IS ONE OF THE *FEW* PEOPLE WHO THE HULK CONSIDERS HIS *FRIEND!*

THAT'S *RIGHT!* WITH JIM'S HELP, WE HAVE A CHANCE TO *REASON* WITH THE HULK... PERHAPS TO EVENTUALLY *CURE* HIM.

A COMMENDABLE *GOAL*, DOCTOR. IF YOU DON'T *MIND*, I HAVE A SUGGESTION THAT MIGHT *FACILITATE* THE SENATE'S STUDY OF YOUR OPERATION.

I PROPOSE FLYING TO CALIFORNIA WITH YOUNG JIM AND DR. SOFEN TO GET A *FIRST-HAND VIEW* OF THE HULK IN THE FIELD, WHILE SENATOR HAWK REMAINS AND OBSERVES EFFORTS *HERE*.

YOU'RE AMENABLE TO THAT, *AREN'T* YOU, DR. SOFEN?

WHY... UH, *YES*.

AND SO, MINUTES LATER, SENATOR STIVAK'S PRIVATE JET LIFTS OFF FROM THE GAMMA BASE AIRSTRIP..

...CARRYING FOUR RATHER *UNIQUE* PASSENGERS.

YOU SEEM RATHER *PENSIVE*, JIM. IS SOMETHING *WRONG*?

WELL, YES AND *NO*, SENATOR. I'M REAL *ANXIOUS* TO JOIN UP WITH THE HULK AND ALL--

--BUT THERE'S *SOME* FOLKS IN CALIFORNIA THAT I'D JUST AS SOON NEVER SEE *AGAIN*.

OH, I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT *THEM*, JIM.

AFTER ALL, THE *CORPORATION* ALWAYS TAKES CARE OF ITS *OWN*!

PLEASANT DREAMS!

PSSSSST

I CAN'T *BELIEVE* IT! YOU, A UNITED STATES *SENATOR*, ARE WITH THE CORPORATION?!

QUITE CORRECT, MY DEAR *MS. MOONSTONE*! PERHAPS YOU ARE MORE FAMILIAR WITH MY MIDDLE NAME--*KLIGGER*. I AM THE PRESENT HEAD OF THE CORPORATION'S *MID-ATLANTIC BRANCH*.

IT IS A POSITION I WOULD LIKE TO *RETAIN*.

HOWEVER, DUE TO SOME UNFORTUNATE *SETBACKS*,* I HAVE OF LATE LOST FACE WITH THE *BOARD OF DIRECTORS*.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT I *REDEEM* MYSELF IN THEIR EYES.

*SEE *MARVEL PREMIERE* #'s 39, 40, 44 AND RECENT ISSUES OF *CAPTAIN AMERICA* (& WHEW!S)--JO.

I AM AWARE THAT YOU'VE BEEN WORKING FOR OUR *WEST COAST* BRANCH...HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO THROW IN WITH *MY* LITTLE CADRE?

THAT DEPENDS ON WHAT'S IN IT FOR *ME*.

POWER, DR. SOFEN. POWER AND *WEALTH*!

BUT WHILE KARLA SOFEN SHIFTS EXPECTANTLY IN HER SEAT, A CERTAIN GREEN-SKINNED BEHEMOTH SITS UN-EASILY IN HIS...

HEY, DON'T BE SO GLUM, HULK. I'VE GOT SOME FRIENDS IN BERKELEY WHO'LL PUT US UP TILL THE HEAT BLOWS OVER. YOU'LL SEE!

WE'LL BE THERE BEFORE YOU...

...OH, NO!

"A STATE POLICE ROADBLOCK! I BET THEY'RE LOOKING FOR YOU BECAUSE OF LAST NIGHT'S FRACAS. MAN, I HOPE THAT STUPID DEPUTY HASN'T RADIOED IN YET!

"IF HE HAS..."

BAH! HULK WILL SMASH--!

PLEASE, HULK--THIS IS NOT THE TIME OR PLACE FOR SMASHING! HERE, THROW THIS ON AND SIT BACK IN THE SEAT.

I'VE GOTTEN THROUGH WORSE ROADBLOCKS IN ANTSIER SITUATIONS. I CAN BLUFF US THROUGH THIS ONE!

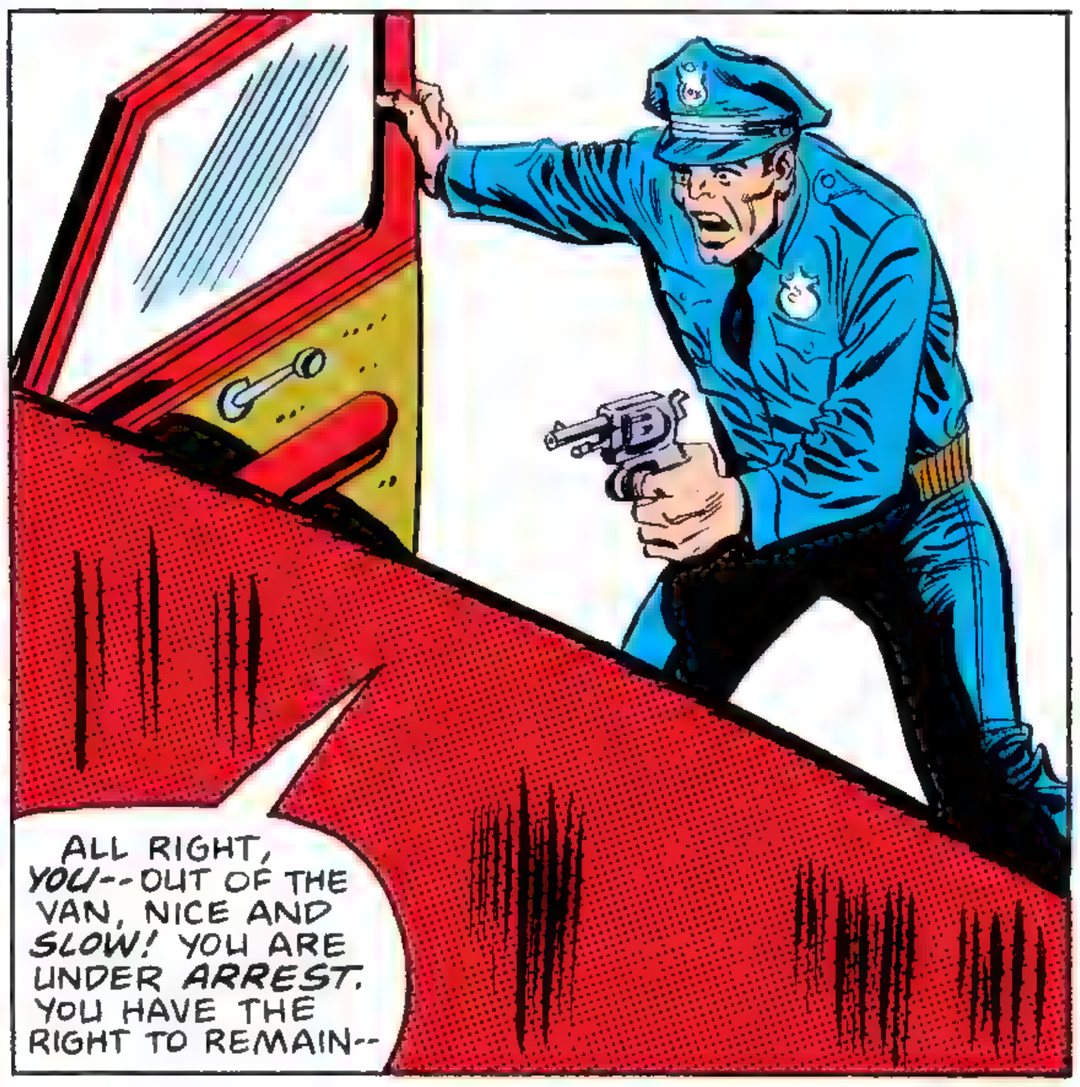
I HOPE.

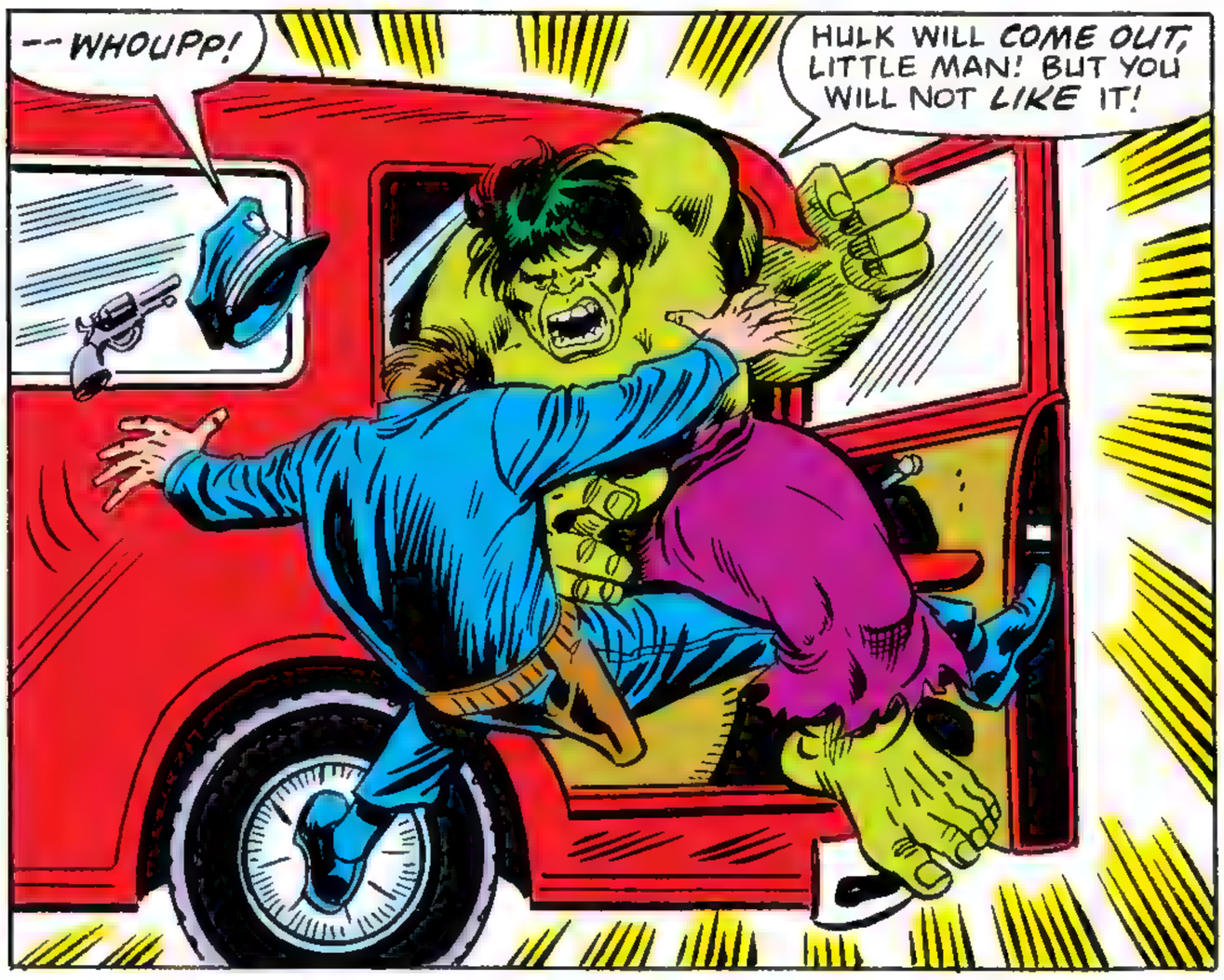
ANYTHING WRONG, OFFICER?

JUST A ROUTINE CHECK. SEEMS THE HULK'S BEEN SPOTTED IN THESE PARTS--YOU SEEN HIM?

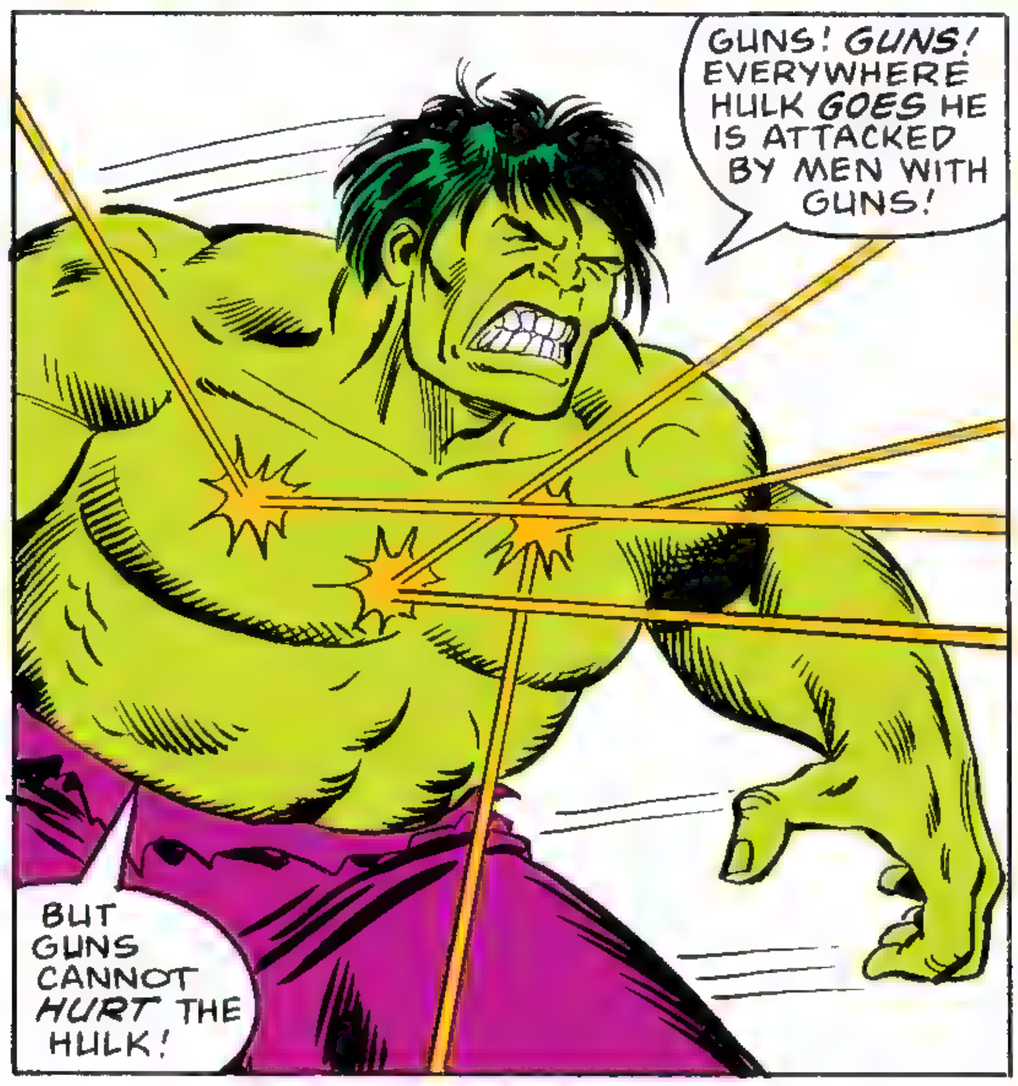
GOSH, NO!

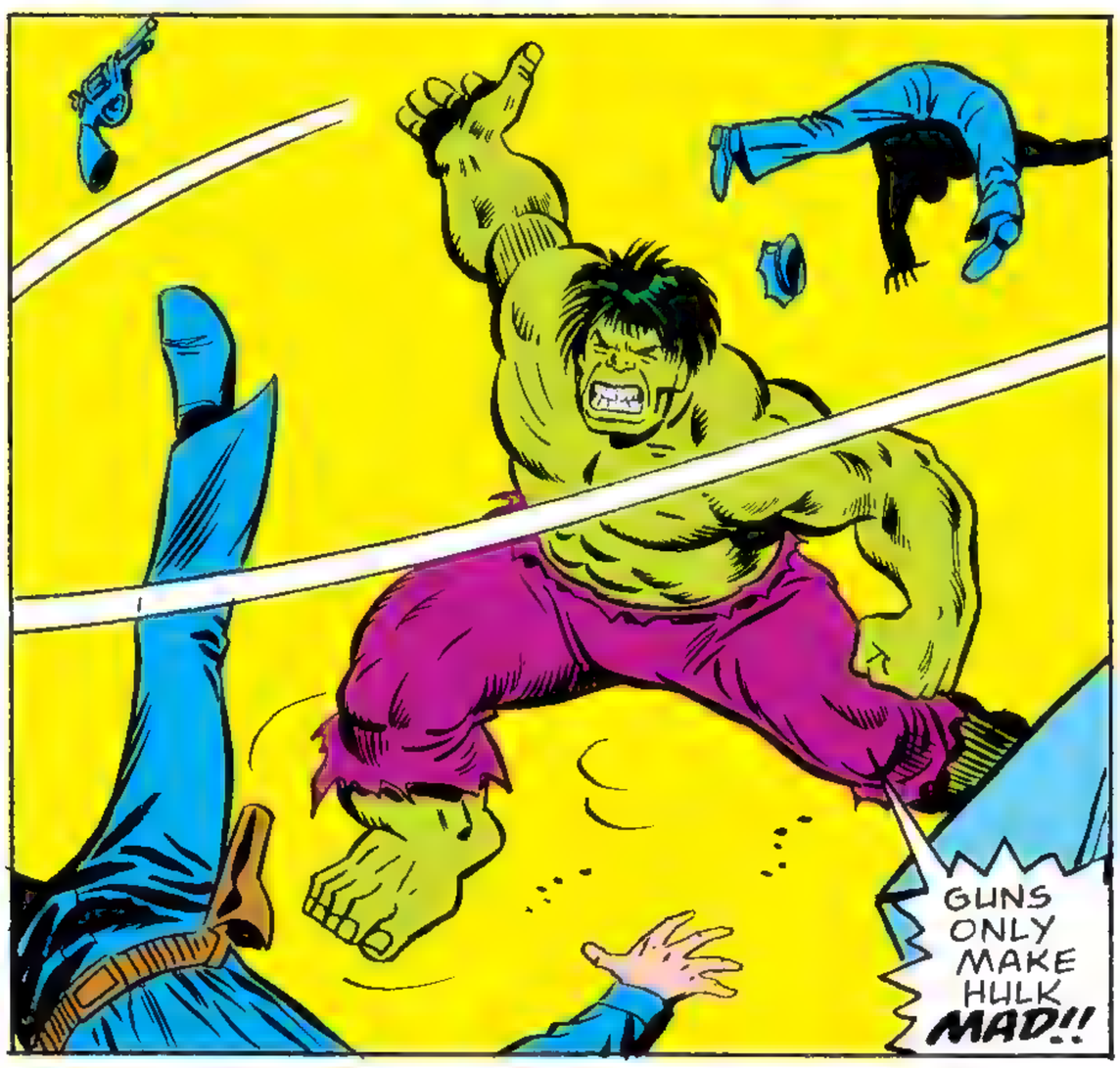
WHAT THE DEVIL? IT'S HIM!


ALL RIGHT, YOU--OUT OF THE VAN, NICE AND SLOW! YOU ARE UNDER ARREST. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN--


--WHOUPP!
HULK WILL COME OUT, LITTLE MAN! BUT YOU WILL NOT LIKE IT!

STEVE, GET DOWN!
MY GOD, LOOK AT THE SIZE OF HIM!


GUNS! GUNS! EVERYWHERE HULK GOES HE IS ATTACKED BY MEN WITH GUNS!
BUT GUNS CANNOT HURT THE HULK!


GUNS ONLY MAKE HULK MAD!!

STUPID LAWMEN TRY TO *STOP* THE HULK... SET THINGS IN HULK'S *WAY!*

BAH!

POLICE DE

KROOM!

THESE ARE JUST PUNY *CARS*--PUNY CARS FOR *PUNY MEN!* THEY WILL NOT BLOCK HULK'S WAY FOR *LONG!*

AS THE TROOPERS WISELY SCATTER INTO THE SURROUNDING HILLS, THE MIGHTIEST MORTAL ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH HEFTS THE TWISTED MASS OF DETROIT STEEL--

--AND SLAMS IT DOWN INTO THE OTHER PATROL CAR WITH A METAL-MUTILATING FURY THAT BEGGARS THE IMAGINATION!

KA-

P0563

WHOOOM

YES, LITTLE MEN--*RUN!* RUN LIKE YOU MADE HULK AND FRED RUN!

HAH! HULK SHOULD *NEVER* HAVE RUN, *NEVER!*

BUT IF *FRED* WANTS TO RUN, HULK WILL *FOLLOW.*

NOW... *DRIVE!*

UH... UH... S-SURE THING, HULK. L-LET'S GO,

WHEN FRED SLOAN SET OUT ON HIS LITTLE OUTLAW ADVENTURE THIS MORNING, HE FELT SECURE WITH HIS NEW GREEN BUDDY BY HIS SIDE.

NOW HE WONDERS IF HE WILL EVER FEEL SECURE AGAIN.

TO BE HULKINUED NEXT MONTH--

IN THE MOST CATACLYSMIC CROSSOVER OF ALL!

THE ACTION BEGINS IN CAPTAIN AMERICA #230 AND KEEPS ON COMING IN HULK #232

DON'T YOU DARE MISS IT!!

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THEN CAME... THE HULK!

1941! The world at *war!* And in a secret laboratory, frail *Steve Rogers* became the American *super-soldier!* For four thrilling years, he fought the Axis powers—until a freak stroke of fate threw him into *suspended animation.* He woke a man *out of his time.* Since that fateful day, Steve Rogers has sought his destiny in this brave new world.

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ASSAULT ON ALCATRAZ!

IN THE MIDDLE OF **SAN FRANCISCO BAY** SITS TWELVE ACRES OF ROCKY REAL ESTATE KNOWN AS **ALCATRAZ.**

FOR SOME THIRTY YEARS, ITS PRISON WALLS HELD SOME OF THE MOST INFAMOUS **CRIMINALS** IN THE HISTORY OF THE NATION.

TODAY, THOSE WALLS MAY WELL SERVE AS PRISON FOR CAPTAIN AMERICA'S FORMER PARTNER--THE **FALCON.**

AND THUS, IN SEARCH OF HIS OLD FRIEND, CAP HAS COME TO THE CITY OF THE **GOLDEN GATE...**

LG216

...LEADING HIS MISSION INTO THE ISLAND FORTRESS IN THE COMPANY OF A GROUP OF **HAPPY TOURISTS**--

--HIS ONLY AIDES, THE SHIELD SUPER-AGENTS, **MARVEL MAN** AND THE **VAMP!**

CAP, DO YOU THINK THE BLUE STREAK WAS TELLING THE **TRUTH?** HOW COULD THE **CORPORATION** POSSIBLY HAVE THE FALCON HIDDEN IN **ALCATRAZ?**

I... DON'T **KNOW**, MARVEL MAN. BUT RIGHT NOW IT'S THE ONLY **LEAD** WE HAVE TO THE FALCON'S WHEREABOUTS.

WELL, **LOOK**... I KNOW THE SUPER-AGENTS HAVE KIND OF BOMBED OUT **SO FAR**, BUT... I JUST WANT TO SAY IT'S A PRETTY BIG **HONOR** TO WORK WITH YOU.

THAT'S IT, **BOY SCOUT!** GO AHEAD AND **BUTTER UP** THE OLD MAN... FOR ALL THE GOOD IT'LL DO! THIS IS OUR FIRST AND **LAST** MISSION!

BETWEEN THE BLUE STREAK TURNING OUT TO BE A PLANT FROM CORPORATION-WEST, AND THE TEXAS TWISTER LEAVING IN **DISGUST**, * THE SUPER-AGENTS HAVE **HAD** IT!

*LAST ISSUE-- J.S.

IT COULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED ANY NEATER IF THE CORPORATION HAD **PLANNED** IT THIS WAY!

AND AS THE CHEERY LITTLE **TOUR BOAT** CHUGS ON TO THE CRAGGY ISLET...

...JUST TO THE NORTHEAST OF THE BAY AREA, **ANOTHER** CONVEYANCE DRAWS EVER CLOSER WITH ITS RATHER UNIQUE PASSENGERS...

EAT AT JOE'S

--ONE FRED SLOAN AND HIS TRAVELLING COMPANION, THE **INCREDIBLE HULK!**

MAN, HULK--I **STILL** CAN'T GET OVER THE WAY YOU TOTALLED THE POLICE CARS AT THAT **ROADBLOCK!***

JUST--**PLEASE**, LORD--DON'T GET THAT MAD **AGAIN!**

*HULK #231--J.S.

BAH! STUPID LAWMEN WERE NOT GOING TO STOP THE **HULK!** HULK IS... HULK IS...

...HULK IS **TIRED**. **STUPID** CIGARETTE SMOKE MAKES HULK SLEEPY.

WELL, HEY--DON'T **FIGHT** IT, HULK. JUST **RELAX** FOR ONCE, WILL YA?

I MEAN, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO...

WEEOO

...WORRY ABOUT.

OH, **NO!** NOT **AGAIN!** WHERE'D HE COME FROM, AND MORE IMPORTANT, WHAT DO I DO **NOW?**

WEEOO

SHOULD I MAKE A **RUN** FOR IT OR--

--**H-HEY!** WH-WHO ARE YOU?

MMM? BRUCE... BRUCE BANNER.

NOW I'VE GOT A COUPLE FOR *YOU--WHO* ARE YOU AND WHERE *AM* I?

I'M FRED SLOAN, AND WE'RE TOOLIN' DOWN THE ROAD TOWARDS *BERKELEY.*

THAT IS, WE *WERE.*

OOOEE

THE POLICE? *NO,* THEY'LL--!

HEY, JUST KEEP IT *COOL,* BROTHER! THIS'LL BE A CINCH!

HELLO, OFFICER. I GUESS YOU *CAUGHT* ME. SORRY, I KNOW THE SPEED LIMIT'S 55, BUT I JUST GOT--!

SHUT UP, YOU!

UH... YES, SIR.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR--*HEY!* YOU! YOU'RE *BRUCE BANNER,* AREN'T YOU?

SURE, *THAT'S* HIM! I SAW HIS PICTURE BACK AT HEAD-QUARTERS!

I GUESS YOU'VE *GOT* ME, GENTLE-MEN. I'LL COME *QUIETLY.*

OH, WE'RE *SURE* OF THAT!

BLAM

BLAM

TWO SHOTS, TWO *HITS*... NOT *BAD* FOR A COUPLE OF GUYS PUSHING FORTY, EH? I THINK *JACKSON'LL* BE PLEASED.

HE *WON'T* BE IF WE DON'T GET OUR *TAILS* IN GEAR. THE TRANSPORT VAN IS HERE ALREADY--

"--SO LET'S GET OUR PIGEONS UNDER WRAPS BEFORE THE *REAL* COPS COME ALONG!"

IN JUST OVER A *MINUTE*, THE ERSATZ PATROLMEN ARE ROARING DOWN THE *CALIFORNIA FREE-WAY* WITH THEIR PRIZE...

--SCARCELY NOTING OR *CARING* ABOUT THE WISP OF SMOKE THAT WAFTS UP OVER THE HORIZON.

AND SO *ENDS* THE ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER OF SENATOR EUGENE K. STIVAK.

A *PITY*. I QUITE *ENJOYED* MY SOJOURN IN THE SENATE -- BUT IT'S JUST AS WELL. THE ABUSES OF OFFICE I COMMITTED AS A *CORPORATION OFFICIAL** COULD NOT HAVE GONE UNDISCOVERED FOR LONG.

OUR COPTER WILL ARRIVE SHORTLY, SIR.

EXCELLENT.

*SEE *HULK* #231 -- J.S.

OH, MY *COMPLIMENTS*, DR. SOFEN! YOUR POWERS WERE INVALUABLE IN DESTROYING MY PLANE AND BRINGING US AND OUR *PRISONERS* SAFELY TO EARTH.

BUT I THINK IT BEST THAT YOU ASSUME YOUR *MOONSTONE* IDENTITY FOR THE NEXT STEP OF MY PLAN.

WHATEVER YOU *SAY*, SENATOR.

MY DEAR, HAVEN'T YOU BEEN *LISTENING?* SENATOR STIVAK IS *DEAD*. FROM NOW ON, I AM *KLIGGER*-- THE HUMBLE SERVANT OF CORPORATION-EAST.

COME, WE HAVE BUSINESS--

"--ELSEWHERE." AND IN THIS SECTION, PARTS OF THE CLINT EASTWOOD MOVIE "THE ENFORCER" WERE FILMED.

FIND ANYTHING YET, CAP?

MAYBE. THIS SHIELD ENERGY OUTPUT TRACER IS PICKING UP AN UNUSUALLY HIGH AMOUNT OF ELECTRICAL POWER IN THIS SECTION.

LET'S HANG BACK FROM THE CROWD FOR A WHILE.

NOW IF YOU'LL FOLLOW ME, I'LL SHOW YOU THE CELL OF THE FAMOUS BIRDMAN OF ALCATRAZ.

ARE YOU SURE THAT TRACER'S WORKING RIGHT? IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE ANYONE'S BEEN DOWN THIS CORRIDOR FOR YEARS!

I DON'T CARE WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE, THE SIGNAL'S DEFINITELY GETTING STRONGER THIS WAY-- COME ON!

THAT'S IT, BIG MAN! CHARGE ON AHEAD WITH YOUR EAGER-BEAVER SIDEKICK! YOU'VE HARDLY SAID A WORD TO ME THIS MISSION.

I WONDER, ARE YOU STILL MAD BECAUSE I BEAT THE BLUE STREAK WITHIN AN INCH OF HIS LIFE *, OR ARE YOU AFRAID OF ME?

*LAST ISSUE-- J.S.

WELL, WELL! A DEAD END IN AN ARMORED DOOR -- AND A NEW ONE FROM THE LOOKS OF IT.

I BELIEVE WE'VE FOUND WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR.

AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

WELL, IN THAT CASE-- I'LL GET US IN! NO ARMORED DOOR IS STOPPING ME!

NO, WAIT! NOT--

KA-BLAM

--YET.

OKAY, CAP! NOW WE'LL *TEACH* THESE CORPORATION CLOWNS WHAT IT MEANS TO MESS WITH THE *SUPER-AGENTS!*

YOU YOUNG *IDIOT!* IF THEY DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE HERE BEFORE, THEY DO *NOW!*

DIDN'T SHIELD TEACH YOU *ANYTHING* ABOUT STEALTH?

EVEN AS HE SPEAKS, CAP BOLTS FORWARD, HIS RIGHT ARM *RIPPING* HIS SHIELD FROM HIS BACK--

--SENDING IT FLYING ACROSS THE *INNER CHAMBER*--

--AND *BACK*-- ZIPPING SNUGLY INTO PLACE ON HIS OUT-THRUST LEFT FOREARM.

ELAPSED TIME: *1.05 SECONDS.*

WELL, WHAT'RE YOU *WAITING* FOR?

FOR A HEARTBEAT, THE TWO SUPER-AGENTS HESITATE-- SEEMINGLY *STRUCK DUMB* BY CAP'S NONCHALANT DISPLAY OF COORDINATION. AND THEN, THEY FOLLOW...

WE'VE LOST ANY ELEMENT OF *SURPRISE!* WE'VE GOT TO MOVE-- *FAST!*

...STICKING CLOSE BEHIND THE AVENGER AS HE ALL BUT **VAULTS** DOWN THE STEEP, TWISTING STAIR-WAY--

--UNTIL, FINALLY...

CAP? WHAT IS IT?

BUT THE SENTINEL OF LIBERTY DOES NOT **REPLY**. AT FIRST, MARVEL MAN THINKS THAT, HE, TOO, IS **AWED** BY THE CHAMBER THAT CONFRONTS THEM...

...BY THE ROW UPON ROW OF **COMPUTER TERMINALS**, RIVALING THOSE OF SHIELD ITSELF... BY THE MIGHTY **TIDEWATER DYNAMO**, FED BY THE CONTROLLED CURRENTS FROM THE TWO MIGHTY SEA GATES.

BUT THEN, AS HIS EYES FOLLOW CAP'S GAZE, HE SEES THE **REAL** CAUSE OF CAP'S SHOCKED SILENCE. FOR CHAINED TO THE FAR SEA GATE IS THE **COMA-TOSE FORM** OF CAP'S ONCE-PARTNER.

FALCON!

I WOULDN'T MAKE ANY FOOLISH **MOVES**, IF **I** WERE YOU.

WHO--?

THE NAME IS JACKSON... **CURTISS JACKSON**, * I MANAGE THE WEST COAST OPERATIONS OF THE **CORPORATION**. AS YOU ARE HERE, I TAKE IT MY PLANT IN SHIELD WAS **DISCOVERED**.

HE WAS.

*LAST SEEN IN **MACHINE MAN** #8--J.S.

UNFORTUNATE. HE'LL HAVE TO BE **ELIMINATED**.

BUT THAT IS HARDLY OUR CONCERN **NOW**. YOU REALIZE HOW THOSE SEA GATES **WORK**, CAPTAIN?

AT THE FLIP OF A **SWITCH**, YOUR FRIEND WOULD DROWN VERY **QUICKLY**.

I... KNOW.

I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW, I'M NOT A **CRUEL** MAN... I HATE UNNECESSARY DEATH. IT'S BAD FOR **BUSINESS**. PERHAPS WE--?

I **READ** YOU, JACKSON--AND I'M READY TO **BARGAIN** FOR THE FALCON'S LIFE.

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME **DO**?

CAP, YOU CAN'T BE **SERIOUS**?! YOU'RE **NOT** GOING TO--!

GROW UP, JUNIOR! OF **COURSE**, HE IS.

GOOD. I'M SURE WE CAN DO BUSINESS. CORPORATION-WEST ACTUALLY HAS **LITTLE** INTEREST IN THE FALCON. THE ONE **WE** WANT IS A **NEPHEW** OF HIS.

JIM WILSON.

YES. I WASN'T AWARE THAT YOU *KNEW* OF THE BOY'S EXISTENCE.

I *DIDN'T*... UNTIL RECENTLY.*

*CAP #228 & #229 -- J.S.

BUT THAT'S BESIDE THE POINT. I'M NOT PROMISING ANYTHING UNTIL THE FALCON'S *RELEASED*.

DON'T GO MAKING DEMANDS OF *ME!* YOU'RE BARGAINING FROM A *WEAK* POSITION AS IT IS!

JUST LOOK *BEHIND* YOU!

"IN CASE YOU DON'T *RECOGNIZE* HIM, THAT'S DR. BRUCE BANNER STRAPPED TO THE *ELECTRO-SLEEP HARNESS*. MY MEN CAPTURED HIM JUST *MINUTES* AGO.

"YOU SEE, JIM WILSON IS A GOOD *FRIEND* OF BANNER... AND HIS OTHER SELF, THE *HULK!*

"WE LEARNED THAT FACT THE *HARD WAY*, WHEN OUR AGENT, THE CONSTRICTOR, TRIED TO RETURN WILSON -- A FORMER, AH, *EMPLOYEE* OF OURS -- TO LOS ANGELES.

SO WE NOW HAVE *TWO* HOSTAGES WITH WHICH TO LURE JIM WILSON IN. AND FRANKLY, THE FALCON IS THE LESS ATTRACTIVE BAIT FOR OUR *TRAP*.

CAP, ARE YOU SERIOUSLY -- ?

OF COURSE NOT, BUT RIGHT *NOW*, JACKSON HOLDS ALL THE CARDS. IF WE WANT TO SAVE THE FALCON, WE'VE GOT TO *STALL* FOR TIME.

WELL, CAPTAIN, WHAT CAN YOU -- *EH?*

WOOP WOOP

THE SECONDARY *INTRUDER ALARM?* BUT THAT'S *IMPOSSIBLE!*

COME NOW, JACKSON! NOTHING IS TRULY IMPOSSIBLE. ENTERING YOUR SUBTERRANEAN HIDEAWAY CAN BE QUITE EASY WHEN LED BY AS GRACIOUS A GUIDE AS YOUR MS. MOONSTONE!

IN THE FLESH, SIR! I BELIEVE YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR MY FRIEND HERE, MR. WILSON.

KLIGGER!

A PITY HE'S NOT AS DOCILE AS HIS PET.!

WHAT THE DEVIL ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE? I THOUGHT YOU WERE TRYING TO SHORE UP EAST COAST OPERATIONS BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS CRACKED DOWN.

TO BE SURE! BUT TO FULLY SATISFY THEM, I NEED TO ELIMINATE YOUR GUEST-- CAPTAIN AMERICA.

PERHAPS WE COULD ARRANGE A TRADE, EH? YOU WANT JIM WILSON ALIVE... AND I WANT CAPTAIN AMERICA DEAD.

AH, BUT I SEE YOU ARE A BIT PUZZLED OVER HOW I KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT YOUR OPERATION. DON'T BE.

CORPORATION-EAST HAS A NUMBER OF AGENTS IN YOUR BRANCH... AS WE DID IN SHIELD.

YOU DID VERY WELL, VAMP.

THANKS, LOVER.

THE VAMP?! SHE WAS A TRAITOR, TOO? HER AND THE BLUE STREAK?!

I SUSPECTED AS MUCH. HER ATTACK ON THE STREAK WAS TOO VICIOUS... SHE WAS TRYING TO SILENCE HIM.

I'LL BET ANYTHING THAT SHE'S THE TELEPATH WHO SICKED THE CONSTRICTOR ON ME!*

*SEE CAP # 228 -- J.S.

SHE'S PROBABLY BEEN... MARVEL MAN, NO!

DON'T TRY TO STOP ME, CAP! WE'VE WAITED LONG ENOUGH!

I'M FIGHTING BACK NOW!

"AND THE *FIRST* ORDER OF BUSINESS IS FREEING AND WAKING *DR. BANNER!* WE'RE GOING TO *NEED* HIM!"

ZOK

STOP THEM! THEY MUSTN'T GET TO KLIGGER OR THE WILSON BOY!

YOU HEARD THE BOSS-- *FAN OUT!*

SORRY BOYS-- BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO FAN OUT FASTER THAN *THAT!*

NOW YOU'RE TALKING, CAP! JUST BE SURE TO LEAVE A FEW FOR *ME!*

MARVEL MAN-- WATCH YOUR *BACK!*

THE KID *IS* GOOD. IF HE CAN JUST SURVIVE HIS OWN *OVER-CONFIDENCE*, HE'LL GO *FAR.*

AND WITH THE BATTLE RAGING ALL ABOUT HIM, BRUCE BANNER SLOWLY REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS...

UHH! *NOW* WHERE AM I? I REMEMBER BEING *SHOT*-- DRUGGED-- MERCY BULLETS, I GUESS. WHAT'S GOING *ON?*

OH, NO--*NO!* THE SHOCK... THE FEAR ...IS TRIGGERING THE *CHANGE!*

BUT I *MUSTN'T* CHANGE! I... MUST ...REGAIN *CONTROL!* I... MUST ... NOT...

...CHANGE?! *BAH!* WHY SHOULDN'T I CHANGE?

PUNY BANNER IS *WORTHLESS* IN A FIGHT--

--BUT NOTHING CAN STOP THE *HULK!*

HULK! THESE GOONS ARE *HASSLIN'* ME, MAN!

UNH?!

OH... MY... GOD.

JIM!!

GET THE BOY BACK, AND KEEP *FIRING!* HE HAS TO HAVE A *WEAK SPOT!*

NO! ONLY *MEN* ARE WEAK! THE HULK IS NEVER WEAK-- *NEVER!*

MEN ARE *NOTHING* WITHOUT THEIR GUNS! THEY ALWAYS *RUN* WHEN HULK TAKES THEM AWAY... BUT THAT WILL DO THEM *NO GOOD!*

HULK CAN USE *GUNS,* TOO!

WHAM

HULK, THAT'S *ENOUGH!* THE GUARDS ARE ALL TAKEN OUT! YOU TAKE CARE OF THIS *MOON-STONE* CHARACTER AND WE'LL HANDLE THE *REST!*

UHN? HULK REMEMBERS *FLYING MAN*-- HE SAID HE WAS A *DEFENDER.**

**DEFENDERS #62-63 -- J.S.*

BUT HE *LIED!*

GOOD LORD, I'VE GOT TO *STOP* HIM. HE COULD BRING THIS WHOLE *ISLAND* CRASHING DOWN ON TOP OF US!

HOLD IT, HULK! IT'S ME-- *CAPTAIN AMERICA*. YOU REMEMBER ME.

HULK *REMEMBERS...* BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT HULK HAS TO *LISTEN* TO YOU!

HULK JUST WANTS TO GET JIM AND *GET OUT* OF HERE!

SO LEAVE HULK *ALONE!*

WHEW! HE'S FASTER AND *MEANER* THAN EVER! I'LL HAVE TO KEEP ON MY TOES, IF I WANT TO STAY IN ONE *PIECE!*

UNNH?!

HULK--*PLEASE!* THE MEN WHO HAVE JIM ARE *MY* ENEMIES, TOO! WE CAN BEAT THEM *TOGETHER!*

HULK DOES NOT *NEED* YOUR HELP! GET OUT OF HULK'S WAY--

--*NOW!*

SO MUCH FOR *REASON!* IF I DON'T FIGURE OUT A WAY TO STOP HIM FAST, SOMEBODY COULD GET *KILLED!* THERE MUST BE SOME WAY-- BUT *HOW?*

NO, HULK, *NO!* CAP'S TRYIN' TO *HELP* US, MAN!

KLIGGER, HOW CAN YOU STAND THERE SO *CALMLY?* EVEN MY ENERGY-BELT CAN'T MATCH THE HULK'S *BRUTE STRENGTH!* YOU'VE GOT TO GIVE ME THE *POWER!*

WILL YOU SHUT UP?

JUST BE *PATIENT*, MY DEAR. WE MUST FULLY EXAMINE OUR OPTIONS... ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT *MR. JACKSON* SEEMS TO BE PLAYING HIS ACE--

"--BY OPENING THE NORTHERN *SEA GATE!* UNLESS I AM MISTAKEN, THE TORRENT WILL QUICKLY RUSH THROUGH THE DYNAMO *BYPASS VALVES*--

"--AND SWELL UP AROUND THE PARTIALLY CLOSED SOUTHERN GATE, BRINGING THE FALCON'S LIFE TO A VERY UNPLEASANT *END*.

"AND-- AH, *YES*-- I SEE THE CAPTAIN HAS JUST BECOME *AWARE* OF HIS FRIEND'S PREDICAMENT."

SAM! MY GOD--

--NO! *UGH!* L-LET MY GUARD DOWN! LOOKS LIKE THE HULK'S GOT ME NOW!

NO... IT *CAN'T* END THIS WAY! AFTER... ALL THIS... I... CAN'T...

HA! STRUGGLE ALL YOU WANT, LITTLE MAN! YOU WILL NOT BREAK FREE OF THE *HULK!*

SLOWLY-- *INEXORABLY*-- THE HULK'S BEAR HUG *TIGHTENS* ABOUT THE AVENGER, AND THEN...

...HE STRUGGLES *NO MORE*.

KLIGGER, HE JUST *TOTALLED* CAPTAIN AMERICA. FOR GOD'S SAKE, MAN -- HE'LL BE ON US *NEXT!* PLEASE -- GIVE ME THE POWER!

VERY WELL, MY DEAR--

--THE POWER IS *YOURS!*

YESSS! I CAN *FEEL* IT -- FLOWING THROUGH MY *MIND* -- MAKING ME *STRONG*--

--*CHANGING* ME!

UHH? WHAT IS *HAPPENING?* GIRL'S VOICE SOUNDS *STRANGE!*

THAT'S BECAUSE I AM WOMAN *NO LONGER*, HULK! I AM THE *ANIMUS* ...I AM YOUR *DEATH!*

DIE-E-EE!!

*THE SURPRISE ATTACK OF THE **ANIMUS** ON ONE SIDE AND THE MOONSTONE'S **LASER-BLASTS** ON THE OTHER, PROVES TOO MUCH EVEN FOR THE **HULK.***

*SUDDENLY, THE CAVERNOUS CHAMBER IS **SILENT**... SILENT SAVE FOR THE OCCASIONAL CLICK OF COMPUTER CONTACTS AND THE GENTLE **ROAR** OF THE EVER-RISING **WATERS.***

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE PAGES OF THE INCREDIBLE HULK #232! *NOW ON SALE!*

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THE COLD WORDS ECHO, BOUNCING OFF EVEN COLDER STONE. BUT HERE WITHIN THE DESERTED DEPTHS OF **ALCATRAZ**, THREE WOULD-BE **RESCUERS** * HEAR NOTHING. FOR THEY LIE UNCONSCIOUS, FALLEN VICTIMS IN WHAT CAN ONLY BE CALLED... A MOST DANGEROUS **GAME!**

* THE RESCUE BEGAN IN **CAPTAIN AMERICA** #230 --MJ.

THEIR **OPPONENTS**: THE WOMAN-THING CALLED **ANIMUS**--

--AND THE WOMAN-WARRIOR CALLED **MOONSTONE**.

THE **PRIZE**: AN ANGRY YOUNG MAN, **HIMSELF** A VICTIM--

--ONE **JIM WILSON**.

THE **BAIT**: CAPTAIN AMERICA'S ERSTWHILE PARTNER, **SAM WILSON**--

--A.K.A. **THE FALCON**.

THE **PLAYERS**: WEST COAST CORPORATION HEAD, **CURTISS JACKSON**--

--AND HIS EAST COAST COUNTERPART IN THAT CRIME CARTEL, **SENATOR EUGENE KLIGGER STIVAK**...

...HARD MEN WHO EVEN NOW CONTINUE TO--

--BARTER...

SO, JACKSON, BEFORE I HAVE ANIMUS **CARRY OUT** HER DIRECTIVE, WILL YOU RECONSIDER A **TRADE?**

THE WILSON BOY FOR CAPTAIN AMERICA?

TRADE?! HEY, MAN, WHAT DO YOU THINK I *AM*--

--A BLUE CHIP *STOCK?*

THAT'S IT, SON, JUST KEEP TALKING! NO ONE REALIZES I'M BACK AMONG THE *LIVING* YET!

IF YOU CAN JUST KEEP THEIR *ATTENTION* WHILE I MAKE MY WAY OVER TO--

KLIGGER! THIS ONE'S AWAKE!

--NUTS!

BUT HE'S STILL GROGGY! NO MATCH FOR ONE OF MY *LASER BLASTS!*

Z-ZHRAK

UNGH!

POOSH!

FOR LONG SECONDS, **BUBBLES** RISE FROM THE SWIRLING WATERS...

...CAPTAIN AMERICA, HOWEVER, DOES **NOT!**

MAGNIFICENT, MOONSTONE! AT LAST YOU'VE RID ME OF THAT PATRIOTIC ***THORN*** IN MY SIDE!

YOU INSENSITIVE CRUD! THAT "*THORN*" WAS A ***LIVING LEGEND!***

CHOK!

IMPUDENT CHILD! ***HOLD YOUR TONGUE!***

WHAP!

AND AS FOR ***YOU***, YOU SLAVERING CUR, KEEP YOUR SNARLS TO ***YOURSELF***--UNLESS YOU'D CARE TO LEARN THE TASTE OF ***SHOE LEATHER!***

GRRRRRR

*HOWEVER, A CERTAIN GRIM GREEN **GIANT,** ONLY NOW COMING AWAKE TO THE SIGHT OF ONE OF HIS FEW FRIENDS BEING BRUTALLY **BEATEN**--*

*--JUST MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO **SAY** ABOUT THAT!*

SO FAT MAN ***LIKES*** PICKING ON HELPLESS BOYS, EH? NOW ***HULK*** WILL PICK ON ***FAT MAN!***

AND THIS TIME *METAL LADY--*

K-KLIGGER...?

SHIPPP

"--WON'T GET IN HULK'S WAY!"

KA-KROOM!

YOU'RE QUITE A *RESILIENT* FELLOW, HULK! BUT I'M AFRAID THAT *ANIMUS* RE-QUIRES YOUR--

NOW WE-- *AGH?!*

DEATH!

HULK DOESN'T KNOW WHAT *ANNIE-MUSS* IS--

--BUT HULK KNOWS WHAT HE WILL *DO* TO ANNIE-MUSS!

HULK WILL SMASH!

KUMPH!

WHILE AT THE SEAGATE, THE FALCON GROANS--

--HIS HEAD BOBBING HALF-CONSCIOUSLY TO THE RHYTHM OF THE RISING FLOOD WATERS.

AS NEARBY--

--A CRIMSON-GAUNTLETED HAND--

--SHOWS WHY HIS PARTNER HAS EARNED THE TITLE, "LIVING LEGEND"!

IT WORKED!

SHRRING

MOONSTONE THOUGHT SHE WAS TAKING ME BY *SURPRISE*--BUT I *WANTED* HER TO BLAST ME INTO THE WATER!

NOW TO GET THE FALCON OUT OF HERE BEFORE SOMEONE GETS *WISE!*

GOOD! SAM'S *REFLEXES* ARE STILL WORKING! HE'S HOLDING HIS *BREATH!*

BUT IF I DON'T FIND AN OUTLET SOON, WE WON'T HAVE ANY BREATH LEFT TO *HOLD!*

THAT DUCT! DON'T KNOW WHERE IT GOES...BUT DON'T HAVE MUCH *CHOICE!* OXYGEN... ALMOST... GO...G...

:GASP!:

THE AIR INSIDE THE MAINTENANCE ALCOVE IS STALE, FETID...AND *SWEETER* THAN ANY THE TWO HEROES HAVE EVER BREATHED BEFORE!

YOU EVIDENCE A GREAT PROPENSITY FOR *SURVIVAL*, MY DEAR BRUTE! IT'S A SHAME MY DIRECTIVE FORCES ME TO *CRUSH* THAT INCLINATION!

ANNIE-MUSS WILL CRUSH *NOTHING*-- WHEN ANNIE-MUSS IS *DEAD!*

KRAKARK

KLIGGER, SHOULD I--?

NO, MOONSTONE. ANIMUS SEEMS TO BE DOING QUITE *ADEQUATELY* ON HER OWN.

SEE, HULK? YOUR MISSILES ARE *NO* THREAT TO ME WHATSOEVER!

SO WHY DON'T YOU HELP TO *AB-BREVIATE* THIS LITTLE UNPLEASANTNESS, AND RELAX WHILE I--

KILL YOU!

SSSHHHT

POK!

ANNIE-MUSS! YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE HULK... *ANGRY!*

KTAK!

GOING TO MAKE--?! IN THAT CASE, SIR, IT WOULD SEEM PROPITIOUS TO ASSUME A DIFFERENT TACK!

SHZZZK

HNH? THE FLOOR... MOVING!

BUT FLOOR ISN'T ALIVE?!

HULK DOESN'T--

--UNDER--

--STAND...?

IT IS... DONE, KLIGGER.

EXCELLENT, ANIMUS! YOU'RE A CREDIT TO YOUR... UHHH...

EXCELLENT!

NOW, JACKSON, ABOUT THE WILSON BOY... DO WE BARGAIN?

BARGAIN? WHY SHOULD I?

YOU FORGET YOU'RE ON MY TURF! I COULD SNUFF YOU ALL WITH THE PUSH OF A BUTTON! STILL--

--I DO RATHER ADMIRE YOUR STYLE. PERHAPS WE COULD WORK SOMETHING OUT.

WHA--?

KONG

SHA

THE ONLY THING *YOU'RE* GOING TO BE WORKING ON, JACKSON--

--IS NEXT YEAR'S *LICENSE PLATES!*

NO! STAY BACK! OR MY LASER BLASTS WILL--

--HNGH!

THINK AGAIN, MOON-STONE!

ZZASH

YOU'VE GOT *THREE* TARGETS NOW!

ARE YOU GOING TO PACK IT IN--

--OR TRY TO TAKE US *ALL* ON?

*DEFINITION OF A **PROBLEM**: THE SEEMINGLY IRRECONCILABLE CHOICE BETWEEN TWO EQUALLY UNPLEASANT ALTERNATIVES.*

*DEFINITION OF A **SOLUTION**:*

RRRRRRUUUUUMMMMBBLLE

THE HULK!

HULK DOESN'T *LIKE* HARD DARKNESS!

HULK WILL MAKE HARD DARKNESS--

--GO AWAY!

SHATTER!

THAT DOES IT! EVEN WITH ANIMUS TO HELP--

--I'M NOT GOING UP AGAINST *FOUR* OF THEM!

I'M GETTING *OUT* OF HERE!

KZZZLATCH

*AND THIS MOON-STONE **DOES**, BLASTING AN IMPROMPTU **EXIT** IN THE NEARBY SEAGATE--*

*--AND UNWITTINGLY **ADD-ING** TO THE TORRENT OF WATER THREATENING TO **INUNDATE** THE CHAMBER!*

OBSTINATE CREATURE! YOU SHOULD HAVE REMAINED ENCASED! NOW I'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO MAKE YOU--

DI--

SHUT UP!

--EH? NO! M-MY CLUB! DON'T--!

HULK SAID-- *SHUT UP!*

KA-

BASH!

SHINY CLUB *HURT* HULK--

--NOW HULK WILL HURT *SHINY CLUB!*

STRUNCH!

NO! TH-THAT ISN'T JUST A CLUB--

--IT'S THE *POWER SOURCE!*

D-DON'T--!

PLEASE!

KLIGGER!

MOTHER?

I...I...

IIIIEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE...EEEEE...

*AND THUS, AMIDST A CRACKLING AURA OF SOUND AND CORUSCATION, THE PALLID FORM OF THE **VAMP** RETURNS...*

*...HER **MIND**, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS NOT SO **FORTUNATE!***

FACE IT, KLIGGER-- YOU'RE THROUGH!

NO! IT CAN'T HAPPEN THIS WAY! I'M AN IMPORTANT MAN, A UNITED STATES *SENATOR!*

I CAN'T BE SENT TO JAIL LIKE SOME... SOME COMMON *CRIMINAL!*

AND I *WON'T* BE! I MAY BE DEFEATED, BUT I'M NOT *BEATEN!*

THERE IS STILL ONE *FINAL* VICTORY THAT ONLY **I** MAY CHOOSE!

MR. JACKSON, IF YOU PLEASE...?

CERTAINLY, KLIGGER. IT'S MY **DUTY.** FOR AS ALWAYS--

KLIK!

--THE CORPORATION TAKES CARE OF ITS OWN!

CH-CH-CH-CH-CH-CH-CH-CH-CH-CHOW

:UFF:

JIM! LOOK OUT--!

SPANG

CHK

CHK

HOLY GOD..!

I'VE GOT HIM, FALCON!

BULLETS-- BAH!

MY SENTIMENTS EXACTLY, HULK!

"WHICH IS WHY I'M STOPPING THEM!"

BRRAK

YOU MAY HAVE SMASHED GUNS, BUT NOT THE MAN WHO SHOT THEM!

SO HULK WILL HAVE TO DO THAT FOR YOU!

COME OUT OF YOUR GLASS CAGE, JACKSON!

HULK WANTS TO BREAK YOU A LITTLE!

LET'S GO, MARVEL MAN! WE'VE GOT TO SEAL THAT SEAGATE!

BUT, THE HULK--!

I SAID LET'S GO, MISTER!

COME OUT, JACKSON! YOU HURT JIM, AND JIM IS HULK'S *FRIEND!*

GOOD LORD!

WHOM!

THAT GLASS WAS DESIGNED TO TAKE A *BAZOOKA BLAST* WITHOUT A SCRATCH!

AND *NOBODY* HURTS HULK'S FRI--

--EH? GLASS CAGE... *FALLING!*

QUITE CORRECT, HULK-- JUST AS FAST AS MY INGENIOUS PNEU-MATIC *ESCAPE TUBE* WILL LET IT!

BUT... HULK CAN'T LET THE MAN WHO *CAPTURED* HIM, WHO HURT *JIM*, GET AWAY! SO--

--HULK WILL FALL, TOO!

AND SO HE DOES! WITH-OUT THE HINDERANCE OF PNEUMATIC SAFETY VALVES--

--THE HULK PLUMMETS. EVER DEEPER, EVER FASTER. TOWARDS...

...WHAT?

MOMENTS LATER, AFTER THE RUPTURED SEAGATE HAS BEEN SEALED, AND HASTY EXPLANA-TIONS MADE...

I'VE GOT JACKSON'S GOONS ALL TRUSSED UP-- SO NOW DO WE GO AFTER THE HULK?

NEGATIVE, MARVEL MAN. HE'S LONG GONE. AND ANYWAY--

--WE'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE OUR NEWLY-FREED HOSTAGE IS OKAY.

"OKAY"? MAN, I'M CRUISIN' ON CLOUD NINE! IMAGINE, THE FALCON-- MY UNCLE!

BUT THOUGH YOUNG JIM'S EBULLIENCE REFLECTS THE GENERAL AIR OF RELIEF PER-VADING THE CHAMBER--

--A CERTAIN STALWART AVENGER REMAINS GRIM...

FOR HE HAS AN HONEST **AFFECTION** FOR THE COUNTRY FROM WHICH HE DERIVES HIS NAME, AN AFFECTION GREATER THAN MOST MEN HAVE FOR THEIR OWN **LIVES.**

--PURSUING A PERSONAL QUEST FOR **POWER** AT THE EXPENSE OF THOSE WHO CHOSE HIM WITH THEIR VOTES...WITH THEIR HOPES.

AND YET, ONCE AGAIN, HE'S SEEN A HIGH-RANKING OFFICIAL OF THAT COUNTRY'S GOVERNMENT **BETRAY** A SACRED TRUST--

IT'S NOT A **PRETTY** SIGHT, THE AFTERMATH OF DECEPTION. BUT CAPTAIN AMERICA HAS SEEN IT BEFORE-- AND KNOWS HE WILL SEE IT AGAIN.

JUST AS HE KNOWS THAT HE MUST **ACCEPT** IT. FOR THE MARK OF ANY TRUE RESPECT, OF ANY...YES, CALL IT **LOVE**... IS TAKING THE BAD WITH THE GOOD.

THOUGH NO ONE EVER SAID THAT HAD TO BE **EASY.**

COME ON, LET'S GO HOME...

NEXT

AT THE BOTTOM OF THE BAY!

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...AT THE BOTTOM OF THE BAY!

DEEP BENEATH THE ROCKY SURFACE OF **ALCATRAZ,** HALF A TON OF GREEN-SKINNED **RAGE** DIVES DOWN A SEEMINGLY ENDLESS TUNNEL OF GLEAMING VANADIUM STEEL AFTER HIS **PREY.**

THIS IS THE INCREDIBLE **HULK**-- THE STRONGEST MORTAL BEING ON THE FACE OF THE **EARTH!**

AND GOD HELP **ANYONE** WHO GETS IN HIS WAY!

ROGER STERN
WRITER
SAL BUSCEMA
and CHIC STONE
ARTISTS
TOM ORZECHOWSKI
letterer
FRANCOISE MOULY
colorist
ALLEN MILGROM
EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

LG253

DOWNWARD, EVER **DOWNWARD**, PLUMMETS THE BELLOWING MAN-MONSTER--BOUNDING AGAIN AND AGAIN OFF THE POLISHED TUNNEL SURFACE--**DETERMINED** TO CAPTURE THE ESCAPING CRAFT...

...BUT THAT OFFENDING VEHICLE SURGES AHEAD, CARRYING THE HULK'S FOE DEEP INTO THE **ONE ELEMENT** WHICH THE EMERALD BEHEMOTH HATES MOST...

...WATER!

AN ANGRY **SNEER** ON HIS LIPS, THE HULK PLUNGES BOLDLY INTO THE **ICY DEPTHS**--

--EMERGING, MERE SECONDS AFTER THE ESCAPE CRAFT, ON THE VERY BOTTOM OF **SAN FRANCISCO BAY.**

HUNH! JACKSON PROBABLY THINKS THAT WATER WILL ***STOP*** THE HULK!

BUT HULK CAN HOLD HIS BREATH FOR A *LONG TIME!*

LONG ENOUGH TO STOP *JACKSON!*

ENSCONCED IN HIS EMERGENCY ESCAPE CAPSULE, CURTISS JACKSON -- WEST COAST MANAGER OF THE CRIMINAL CORPORATION -- SOON LEARNS THAT FACT, TO HIS DISMAY.

I DON'T BELIEVE IT! HE'S STILL COMING! HE'S --

"-- RIPPING INTO THE REAR SECTION OF THE CAPSULE!"

HE'S ONLY SECONDS AWAY FROM RUPTURING THE ENTIRE CRAFT! IF ONLY HE HASN'T JAMMED THE MODULE RELEASE MECHANISM!

WITH A WATERY SWOOSH, THE REAR COMPARTMENT OF THE CRAFT IS SUDDENLY JETTISONED, AND A SELF-DESTRUCT TIMER BEGINS TO TICK...

...TICK...

WA-BOOM

THE EXPLOSION SHATTERS WINDOWS ALL OVER THE BAY AREA, AND THE RESULTANT **WATER-SPOUT**, JUST OFF THE COAST OF ALCATRAZ--

--IS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO TWO **SHIELD AGENTS.**

MARVEL MAN, WHAT THE DEVIL WAS *THAT?*

I CAN'T SAY FOR *SURE*, Mr. SITWELL, BUT I'LL BET ANYTHING THAT THE *HULK'S* BEHIND IT! HE WENT DIVING FOR THAT CORPORATION BIGWIG AFTER KLIGGER WAS KILLED. *

PERMISSION TO *INVESTIGATE*, SIR?

GRANTED. BUT HOW DO YOU--?

*LAST ISSUE. -- *AL.*

PLAN TO *GET* OUT THERE? BY *STAR-POWER!* MY CONTROL OVER MY URANIAN WRIST-BANDS HAS *INCREASED* SINCE YOU SAW ME LAST, SIR.

FLIGHT IS JUST *ONE* OF THE POWERS THEY CAN GIVE ME!

*AND AS THE LAST REMAINING SHIELD SUPER-AGENT TAKES TO THE AIR... DEEP BENEATH THE FRIGID WATERS OF THE BAY, THE HULK **SHRUGS OFF** THE STUNNING EFFECTS OF AN EXPLOSION THAT WOULD HAVE **DESTROYED** A LESSER BEING.*

*HE IS NOT AT **ALL** HAPPY.*

NOBODY DOES *THAT* TO THE HULK!

NOBODY!

FOUR MIGHTY LIMBS SUDDENLY CHURN THE WATER INTO A MAEL-STROM, SENDING THE MAN-MONSTER ROCKETING AFTER JACKSON--

-- LIKE A LIVING TORPEDO!

Oh... my... God.

SOMETHING *HAS* TO STOP HIM! I *CAN'T* LET HIM *CATCH* ME-- I *CAN'T!*

SIMULTANEITY.

... JACKSON RELEASES HIS BALLAST, AND THE LITTLE SEA-CRAFT KNIFES TO THE SURFACE--

AS TWO TWIN CYLINDERS OF DEATH SHOOT TOWARD THE HULK...

--THERE TO BECOME...

Huh? SOME SORT OF CRAZY *HYDROFOIL!* WHERE'D THAT--?

BUT THE WOULD BE HERO'S QUESTION IS ABRUPTLY INTERRUPTED BY TWIN SUB-SURFACE EXPLOSIONS...

HEY!

-- AND ONE VERY ANGRY **GREEN GOLIATH!**

WELL, AT LEAST I WAS *RIGHT.* IT *WAS* THE HULK!

MEANWHILE, ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE BAY, JACKSON'S ESCAPE CRAFT SHOOTS ACROSS THE WAVES AT **BREAKNECK SPEED**--

--TOWARDS THE RAPIDLY-OPENING MAW OF A SPECIALLY-MAINTAINED, ENCLOSED **DOCKING AREA.**

WITHIN MERE SECONDS, AUTOMATIC DOCKING DEVICES SLIDE THE LITTLE SKIMMER INTO ITS **BERTH,** AND TWO WAITING CORPORATION GUARDS RUSH TO ASSIST THEIR BOSS.

Mr. JACKSON... SIR? WHAT'S ***WRONG?*** THE EMERGENCY BUZZER WENT OFF, BUT--!

NO TIME TO ***EXPLAIN*** --

--JUST UNLIMBER THOSE ***RAPID-FIRERS,*** AND GET READY FOR THE FIGHT OF YOUR ***LIVES!***

BUT NO WARNING, NO TRAINING, NO AMOUNT OF READINESS COULD EVER PREPARE THE CORPORATION SENTRIES FOR...

THE HULK HAS YOU NOW!

COVER ME, YOU IDIOTS! COVER ME!

HIT HIM! HIT HIM HARD AND KEEP HITTING HIM!

AND FOR GOD'S SAKE, CONCENTRATE YOUR FIRE! HE CAN'T STAND UP TO THIS FOREVER!

ALL DAY MEN HAVE BEEN SHOOTING AT THE HULK... AND YESTERDAY... AND THE DAY BEFORE THAT.

THE RESULT NOW IS THE SAME AS THEN...

...A WASTE OF AMMUNITION, AND AN EVER-ADVANCING HULK!

NO! NO, IT'S NOT POSSIBLE! NOTHING THAT LIVES COULD BE THAT STRONG!

HARRY! SHUT UP AND RUN!

SO! FIRST YOU *SHOOT* AT THE HULK, AND NOW YOU TRY TO *RUN*-- JUST LIKE ALL THE REST!

YOU WANT TO *GET AWAY?*

THEN HULK WILL *HELP* YOU GET AWAY!

THE GUARDS ARE LUCKY.

WHEN THEY REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS, THEY WILL BE BRUISED AND SORE... BUT THEY WILL STILL BE ALIVE.

BAH! THESE PUNY MEN WASTED HULK'S *TIME!* HULK SHOULD HAVE GONE AFTER *JACKSON!* JACKSON CAPTURED HULK... SHOT AT HULK... TRIED TO HURT HULK'S FRIEND, *JIM!**

*IN LAST MONTH'S *CAPT. AMERICA/HULK* CROSSOVER --AL.

BEEP BEEP-BEEP BEEEEP

Unh? TRUCK HORN IS HONKING BY *ITSELF?*

NO... HORN NOISE IS COMING FROM *INSIDE* THE TRUCK!

SOMETHING IS *TRAPPED* INSIDE!

THERE IS SOMETHING NAGGINGLY FAMILIAR ABOUT THIS TRUCK TO THE HULK...

...AS IF, DEEP WITHIN HIS **MUDDLED MIND,** BRUCE BANNER'S MEMORIES **RECOGNIZED** IT AND FORCE HIM TO ACT.

WHATEVER THE CASE, HE **SHREDS** THE SIDE OF THE TRUCK WITH THE EASE OF A MAN RIPPING **PAPER,** AND THEREIN HE FINDS...

FRED!

MMMPH!

NOW HULK REMEMBERS.

FRED WAS TAKING HULK SOMEWHERE IN HIS ***VAN!*** *

*HULK #231 --AL.

BUT HOW DID YOU GET IN THIS ***TRUCK?*** WHY IS IT SO ***HARD*** FOR HULK TO RE-MEMBER ***THAT?***

DON'T LET THAT ***WORRY*** YOU, HULK. YOU... ah... WERE GOING THROUGH A FEW ***CHANGES*** AT THE TIME. *

*CAP #230 --AL.

OKAY, ***HOLD IT*** RIGHT THERE, HULK!

Unh?!

WE HAVE TO ***TALK!***

HULK DOES NOT HAVE TO TALK TO *ANYBODY!*

NOW, DON'T BE *DIFFICULT!* JUST COME ALONG WITH ME, AND *SHIELD* WILL STRAIGHTEN EVERYTHING OUT.

WHO'S *THIS* GUY?

HULK IS NOT GOING *ANY-WHERE* WITH CRAZY FLYING MAN!

HULK JUST WANTS TO-- *EH?*

I SAY YOU *ARE* COMING WITH ME! AND I DON'T CARE *HOW* STRONG YOU ARE, *I* CAN HARNESS THE POWER OF THE *STARS*... OF *QUASARS!*

LITTLE MAN, HULK DOES NOT CARE *WHERE* YOUR POWER COMES FROM!

HULK WILL SMASH YOU JUST THE SAME!

KA-

THAM

Uh, THAT WAS GREAT... JUST ***GREAT,*** HULK -- BLOWS AGAINST THE EMPIRE AND ALL -- BUT I REALLY THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA THAT WE ***SPLIT*** NOW!

THAT IS... IF IT'S ***ALL RIGHT*** WITH YOU!

HUNH! HULK MIGHT AS ***WELL*** GO. JACKSON IS TOO FAR AWAY FOR HULK TO FIND ***NOW.***

BUT IF HULK EVER SEES HIM ***AGAIN--!***

YEAH... I GET THE ***PICTURE,*** HULK.

2915 D

ONCE MORE, THE SHOCK-WORN LITTLE VAN TAKES OFF FOR BERKELEY--

--EVEN AS, SEVERAL THOUSAND YARDS DOWN THE COAST, MARVEL MAN MAKES A SOMEWHAT **ABRUPT** LANDING.

WH... UMP

ARE YOU ***OKAY,*** MISTER? BOY, THAT WAS SOME ***FALL!*** YOU A ***SUPER-HERO*** OR SOMETHIN'?

Y-YEAH, SON. I'M CALLED ***MARVEL MAN.***

MARVEL MAN?! BOY, WHAT A ***DOPEY*** NAME!

I-IT... IS?

PACIFIC

COMICS

AND EVEN AS THE FLEDGLING SUPER-HERO CONSIDERS THE PUBLIC'S REACTION...

... AT NEW MEXICO'S **GAMMA BASE,** THE EVENTS OF THE PAST 24 HOURS ARE THE SUBJECT OF HEATED **DISCUSSION--**

--IN THE INSTALLATION'S COMMUNICATIONS CENTER.

JASPER, YOU CAN'T BE ***SERIOUS!***

I'M AFRAID I ***AM,*** Dr. SAMSON.

THOSE ARE SERIOUS ***CHARGES,*** Mr. SITWELL!

BELIEVE ME, SENATOR HAWK, I WISH I WERE WRONG-- BUT SWORN STATEMENTS FROM CAPTAIN AMERICA AND THE FALCON ***SUBSTANTIATE*** THAT THE LATE SENATOR STIVAK WAS INDEED A ***CORPORATION OFFICIAL.****

*SEE ***HULK*** #231-232 --AL.

IT... IT'S ALMOST ***BEYOND BELIEF.*** I'VE KNOWN EUGENE FOR ***YEARS!*** TO SUDDENLY LEARN THAT HE WAS ENGAGED IN A CRIMINAL ***CONSPIRACY--!***

JASPER, WHAT ABOUT ***Dr. SOFEN?*** IS SHE --?

STILL MISSING, SIR. YOU OUGHT TO KNOW THAT ***SHIELD*** NOW THINKS SHE MAY WELL BE THE ***MOONSTONE.**** I'M... SORRY.

SO AM I, JASPER-- SAMSON OUT!

Y-YES, SIR!

*SEE ***HULK*** #228-229 --AL.

I SUPPOSE THIS ***ALTERS*** YOUR PLANS FOR AN ***INVESTI-GATION*** OF GAMMA BASE, SENATOR?

IT DOES ***NOT!*** IF I HAVE TO STAY HERE THROUGH THE ***SPRING RECESS,*** I'LL HAVE YOUR ***JOB!***

WELL, IF IT'S MY *JOB* YOU WANT, YOU'RE *WELCOME* TO IT! LORD KNOWS *I* NEVER WANTED IT!

NOW, IF YOU'LL *EXCUSE* ME, I HAVE A *PATIENT* TO ATTEND TO!

YOU KNOW, HE'S *RIGHT*, SENATOR. AREN'T YOU BEING A LITTLE *ROUGH* ON HIM?

NO, BY GOD! QUARTERMAIN, THE PUBLIC ENTRUSTS GAMMA BASE WITH *MILLIONS OF DOLLARS* ANNUALLY. AND I AIM TO SEE THAT THEY GET THEIR MONEY'S WORTH!

AT THAT MOMENT, SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES TO THE SOUTHEAST...

MEXICO CI
AIRPORT

... MAJOR GLENN TALBOT NERVOUSLY WAITS FOR HIS WIFE TO JOIN HIM.

THAT MUST BE HER FLIGHT *NOW*. LORD, WE'VE BEEN APART FOR SUCH A *SHORT TIME*, BUT IT SEEMS LIKE AN *ETERNITY*.

GLENN SOUNDED SO *SHAKEN* WHEN WE TALKED ON THE PHONE. I JUST HOPE WE'RE DOING THE *RIGHT THING*.

GLENN? OVER *HERE*.

BETTY... I... ALMOST DIDN'T *RECOGNIZE* YOU. YOU LOOK *WONDERFUL*.

THANK YOU, GLENN. HAVE ALL OF THE... *ARRANGEMENTS* BEEN MADE?

Uh... YES. IT'LL TAKE A FEW ***DAYS,*** YOU KNOW. THINGS GET VERY HECTIC THIS TIME OF THE YEAR... EVEN IN ***MEXICO.***

GLENN? ARE YOU ***SORRY*** WE--?

SORRY? OF ***COURSE,*** I AM. BUT AT ***THIS*** STAGE OF THE GAME, I DON'T SEE THAT WE HAVE MUCH ***CHOICE*** IN THE MATTER.

COME ON. I... HOPE YOU LIKE THE HOTEL.

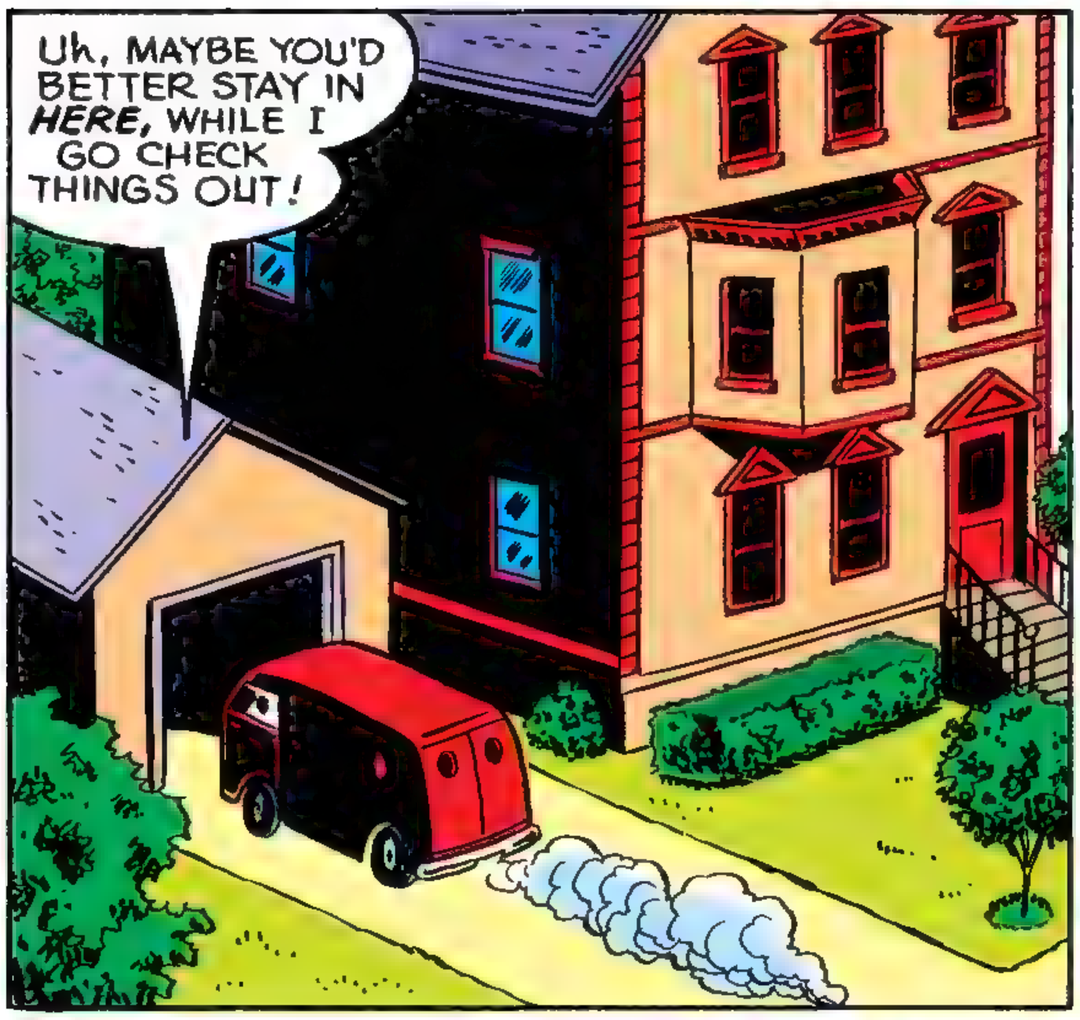
MEANWHILE, IN A QUIET RESIDENTIAL AREA OF ***BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA...***

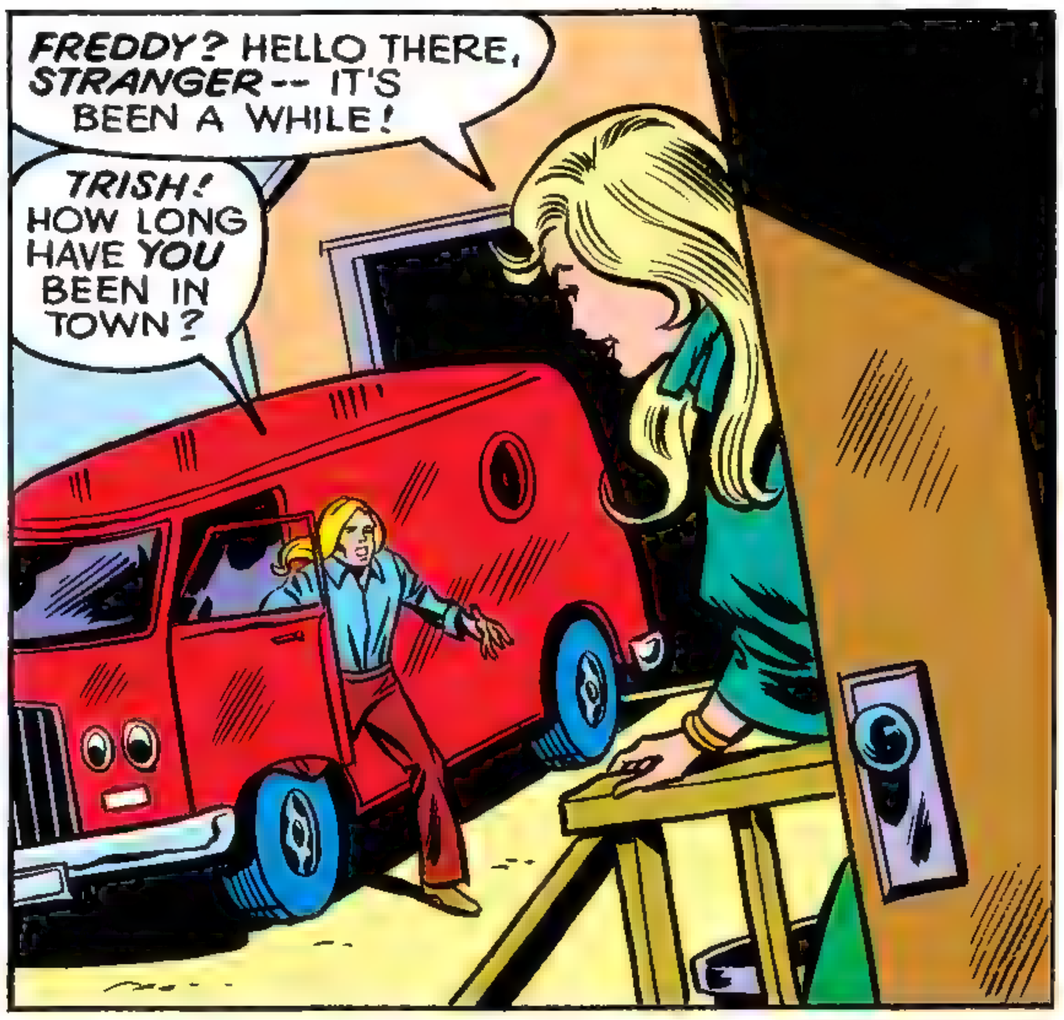
... FRED SLOAN NEARS THE ***END*** *OF THIS DAY'S LONG, AND HIGHLY EVENTFUL,* ***JOURNEY...***

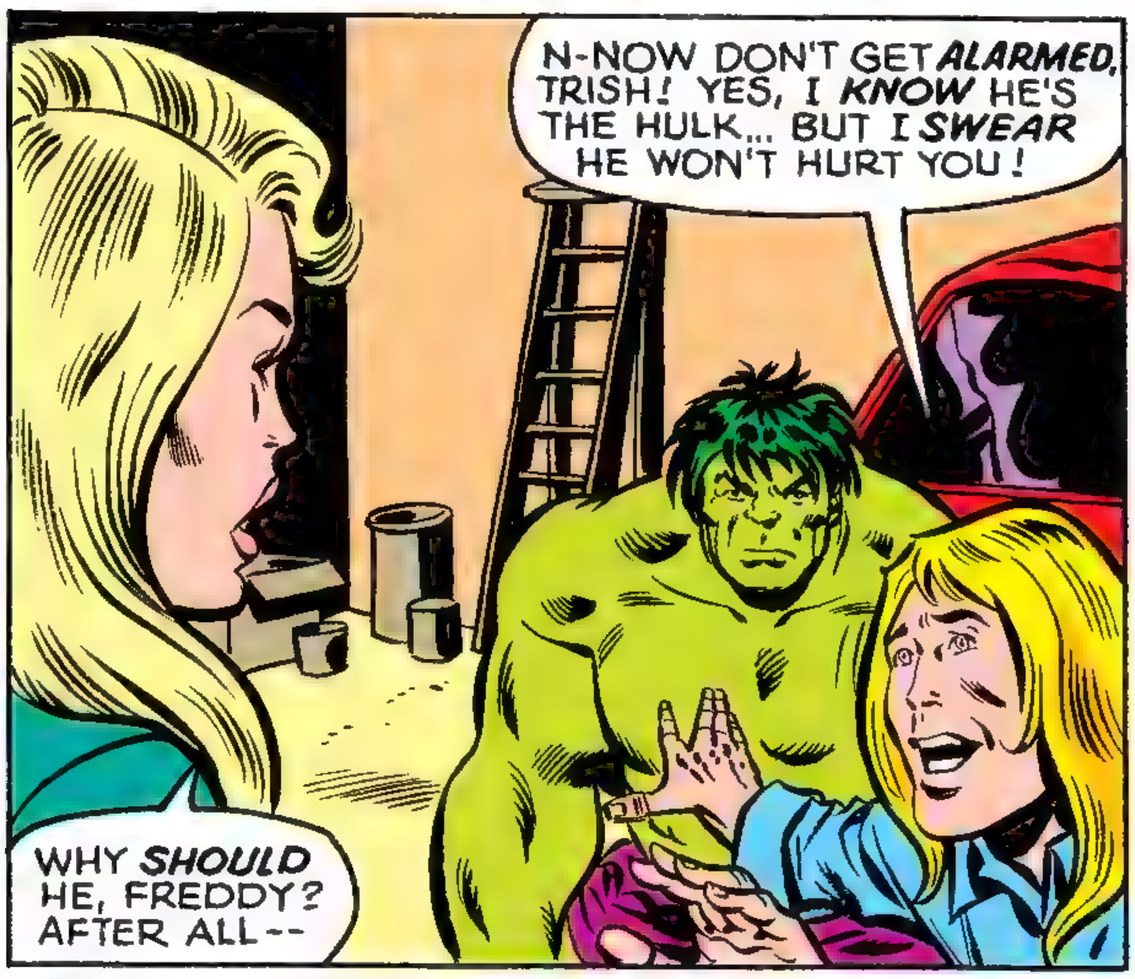
C'MON, HULK, ***CHEER UP! SURE*** THAT JACKSON CHARACTER HASSLED US... SURE HE ***GOT AWAY...*** BUT IT'S NOT SO ***BAD,*** IS IT?

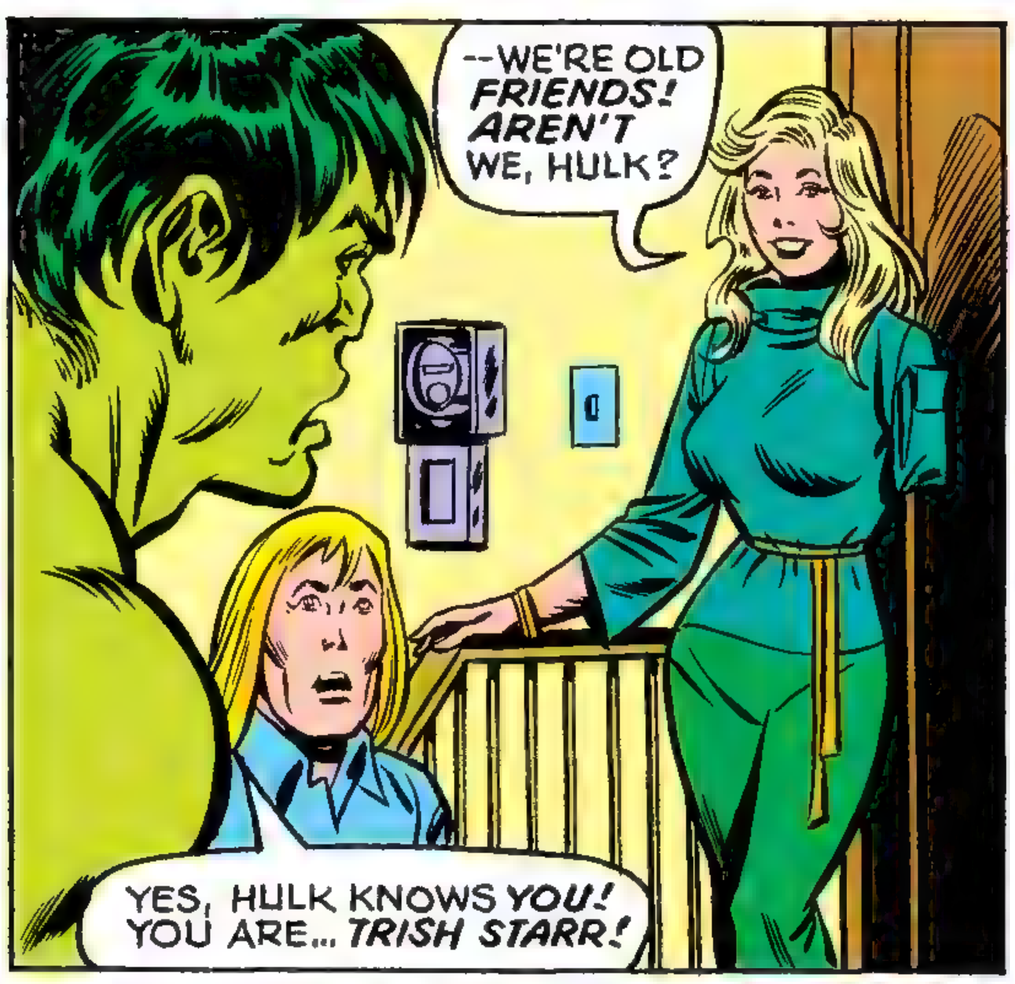
I MEAN, WE'RE NONE THE WORSE FOR THE WEAR. AND PRETTY SOON WE'LL BE IN A NICE COZY PLACE... AMONG ***FRIENDS!***

IN FACT... ***LOOK!*** WE'RE HERE ***ALREADY!***









*DO YOU REMEMBER TRISH STARR? DO YOU KNOW HER AS WELL AS YOU **THINK**? FIND OUT NEXT ISSUE WHEN THE HULK CAUSES A...*

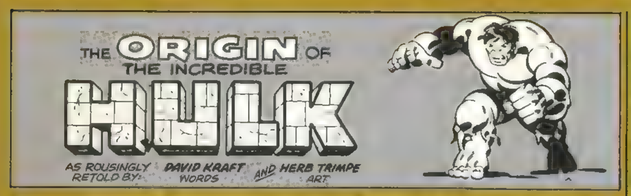
COMMUNAL CATASTROPHE!

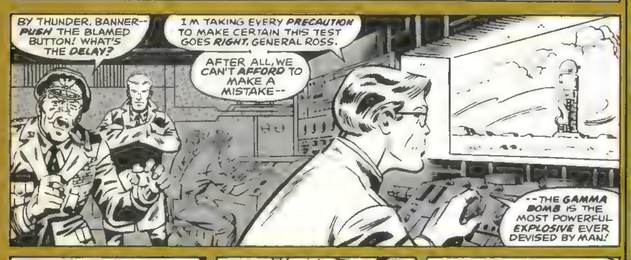
The 1979 *Mighty Marvel Calendar* unleashed the Incredible Hulk across all twelve months of the year. Written by David Anthony Kraft and Jim Salicrup, it featured pinups capturing moments from a host of Hulk's greatest adventures, plus a retelling of the Green Goliath's origin by Kraft and artist Herb Trimpe.

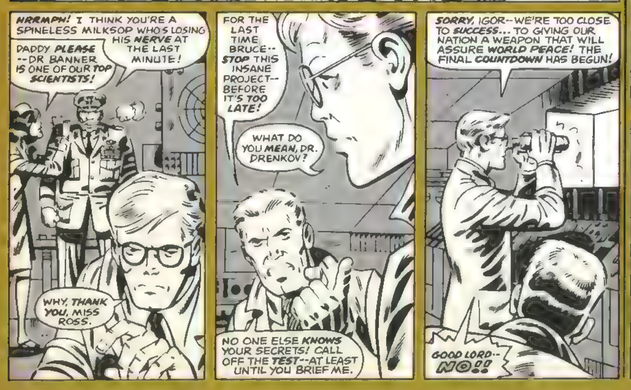
Cover art by John Romita & Joe Sinnott

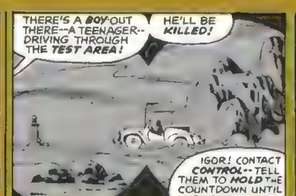
STAN LEE PRESENTS: THE 1979 MIGHTY MARVEL

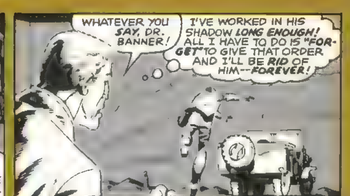
HULK CALENDAR

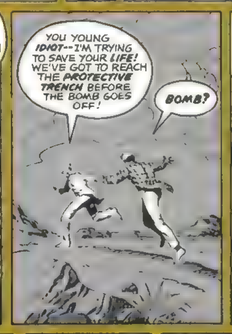


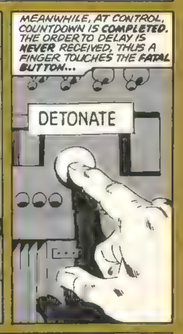












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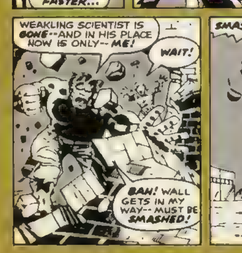

A PANTHEON OF POWER-PACKED PIN-UPS!

COVER
by John Romita and Joe Sinnott

JANUARY
The Incredible Hulk
by Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott

FEBRUARY
The Krylorian Conspiracy
by Walt Simonson

MARCH
Avengers Assemble
by Sal Buscema and Dan Adkins

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by Keith Pollard and Tom Palmer

SEPTEMBER
The Brute That Shouted Love at the Heart of the Atom
by Herb Trimpe

OCTOBER
The Fight and the Fury
by Sal Buscema, John Romita and Dave Hunt

NOVEMBER
Crisis on Counter-Earth
by John Byrne and Terry Austin

DECEMBER
The Dynamic Defenders
by Ed Hannigan and Klaus Janson

DAVID ANTHONY KRAFT
Writer/Editor

JIM SALICRUP
Co-Writer

JOHN ROMITA
Art Director, Special Projects

BOB MARCZAK
Production Coordinator

SOL BRODSKY
V.P. Operations

DUFFY VOHLAND and PATY
Art Assistants

HARRY CHESTER STUDIOS
Production

GEORGE ROUSSOS
Colorist

JANUARY "The Incredible Hulk!" 1979

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
"Half-man, half-monster, the mighty Hulk thunders out of the night to take his place among the most amazing characters of all time!" —Stan Lee THE INCREDIBLE HULK #1	1 HERE COMES THE INCREDIBLE HULK	2 It all began with— STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY	3 Birthday Best to Sincere TONY CERNIGLIA	4 Remember Ol' Greyskin?* *As he was colored in the first ish	5 A legend is born! INCREDIBLE HULK #1, May 1962	6 Bruce Banner will never be the same!
It's National Take-A-Gamma-Bomb-To-Lunch Day!	8 General "Thunderbolt" Ross waxes his mustache today! HRMMPH!	9	10 Say hi to Jalopy-Cruisin' RICK JONES!	11 Beauty and the Beast BETTY ROSS (Greenskin's Gal)	12	13 Nasty of the Week— IGOR THE SPY Better Red than green!
14 Birthday Best to JOHN TARTAGLIONE!	15 Meet Igor's Master— "America's Arch-Enemy"— —the GARGOYLE	16 Second sensational ish!	17 Take a TOAD MAN to tea!	18	19 Third Thooming ish!	20 Happy Birthday, Klobberin' KEITH POLLARD! Rampaging Renderer
21 A Round with the RINGMASTER— —and his CIRCUS OF CRIME!	ROBERT E HOWARD (1906-1936) 22 Creator of Conan	23 KLAUS JANSON— birthday boy and Incredible inker!	24 Many happy returns to Jazzy JOHNNY ROMITA!	25 Fantastic fourth ish!	26 Hulky birthday to Our Pal SAL BUSCEMA!	27 Meet MONGU— —and may the best man win!
28 Fun-filled fifth ish!	29 TYRANNUS wrecks!	30 Sixth and final solo ish— (—for a while!)	31 Happy Birthday PATY! The "Wacky Witch" of Mighty Marvel	"Yes, he saved the boy!		"But what a price he paid for it!" —INCREDIBLE HULK #4, November 1962

January art by Jack Kirby & Joe Sinnott, inspired by *The Incredible Hulk* #1

FEBRUARY "The Krylorian Conspiracy!" 1979

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
"They came from space with weapons of overwhelming power. Their goal was nothing less than the total domination of the Earth. But one lone figure stood between them and disaster: the most awesome man-like creature to ever stride this planet, one thousand pounds of explosive fury men have named—The Rampaging Hulk!" —RAMPAGING HULK #1				1	2 Hey, did you ever wonder what happened between HULK #6 and AVENGERS #1?	3 Revealed at last— RAMPAGING HULK #1, January 1977
4 The cosmic coming of—	5 —the kooky KRYLORIANS'	6	7	8 And along came sweet Bereet!	9 Birthday Felicitations to Marvel's Editorial Ms. JO 'COOL' DUFFY	10 When in Rome—
11 —do as the Krylorians do— —or DIE! Mama Mia!	12 Honest ABE LINCOLN'S Birthday!	13 Doubtful DANNY CRESPI Lo! The Letterer's Birthday!	14 Valentine's Day Betty's HULKthrob!	15 X-MEN roam away from home!	16 Many Happy Returns— Rampagin' RON WILSON!	17 Hulk's day off
18 Fear in France with the FERRONAUT! SOCK-re bleu!	19 The day SPIROU became a hero! It's all in zee bag!	20 The Enchanting CHEN K'AN! Nothing up my sleeve!	21 Enter the Savage SUB-MARINER! Don't make waves!	22 Genial GEORGE WASHINGTON'S Birthday! No lie!	23 Devil May-Care DOUG MOENCH's annual celebration— —in honor of his continued existence!	24 The SOUL-SHADE strikes! Peek-a-boo!
25 Back in the USA world-shattering events take shape!	26 An awesome assemblage of AVENGERS-to-be . . . . . together again for the first time!	27 The galactic going of—	—the kiboshed KRYLORIANS! 28 Whew!	. . . when Hulk gets mad, Hulk gets strong . . . and when Hulk gets strong— HULK SMASHES!! —RAMPAGING HULK #1		

February art by Walter Simonson, inspired by *Rampaging Hulk* #1

MARCH "Avengers Assemble!" 1979

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOKI, God of Evil, gave birth to a sinister scheme —which begat the mighty AVENGERS!	The MIGHTY THOR	IRON-MAN	ANT-MAN and the WASP	1	First, Hulk joins the circus!	2 3
4	5 Then, he joins the AVENGERS! Ish #1, September 1963	6 Tune in to the TEEN BRIGADE— —Rick's C.B. club!	7 Happy Birthday to Amiable AL WEISS!	8 Huh? Hulk gets **canned**!	Hulk is sick of **clowning** around!	9 10
11 The Incredible Hulk vs. the Winsome WASP.	12 who will win?	13 Hulk is **tired** of the Avengers!	14	15 Is he the Hulk— or isn't he?	16 Only the SPACE PHANTOM knows for sure!	17 The Hulk and the SUB MARINER— —Partners in Peril!
18 Hulk quits the Avengers— —the hard way!	19 Where is that milksop Bruce Banner?!	20 The Battle of the Century— —the Hulk vs. the THING!	21 Hulk is **tired** of the Thing, too!	22 Hulk **builds** a wild reputation!	23	24 Sock it to SPIDEY! (See SPIDER-MAN #14)
25	26 The day of the LAVA MEN!	27 Hulk hits High-Pockets!	28 The **bigger** they are, the **harder** they fall!	29	30 Hulk's new home! TALES TO ASTONISH #60 (October 1964)	31 and away we **go**! Get off my **back**, you brat!

March art by Sal Buscema & Dan Adkins, inspired by *The Avengers* #1

APRIL "Captured at Last!" 1979

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 It's APRIL FOOL'S DAY — So why am I here?	2 I, robot! — Banner's Brainstorm	3	4 Meet Major GLENN TALBOT (Intro: ASTONISH #61)	5 Birthday Greetings to Garrulous GIL KANE!	6	7 Trapped by T-BOLT!
8	9 Is he really Bruce Banner—or isn't he?	10 Only the CHAMELEON knows for sure!	11	12 Green-skin's great escape! — I'm free! — It pays to be puny!	13 Lo, the LEADER lives! (Intro, ASTONISH #63)	14
15 The Leader hatches a plan—	16 —and the HUMANOID HORDE strikes! (Intro: ASTONISH #63)	17	18 From Russia, with love!	19 Slap-happy among the Soviets!	20	21 Double-fisted **detente!**
22 Birthday Best to Jolly SOLLY BRODSKY!	23 The brute battles on! — Tanks a lot!	24 So long, Siberia!	25 Talk about your cliff-hangers . . .	26 27 Lost in space!		28 Attack of the 500-foot Humanoid!
29 And remember the **Sunday Punch** missile?	30	**". . . The world's strongest mortal . . . dares to ask the burning question: 'Can a man with green skin and a petulant personality find true happiness in today's status-seeking society?' "** —TALES TO ASTONISH #60				

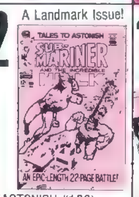
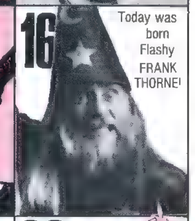
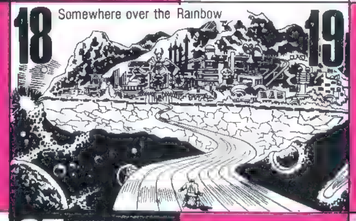
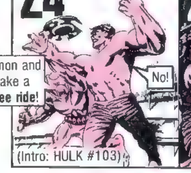
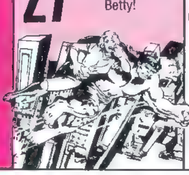
April art by Dave Cockrum & Bob Layton, inspired by *Tales to Astonish* #61

MAY "He Who Strikes the SILVER SURFER!" 1979

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
"Hulk is the strongest one there is!"—the Incredible Hulk (ALMOST EVERY ISSUE!)		1	2 Hulk, you may **stomp** me for this—but you have **bad breath!**	3 Join our **club**— The LEADER's latest lackies!	4 —or else!	5
6	7 The Leader tucks in the Hulk! I'm all **tuckered** out!	8 The Wonderful World of the WATCHER!	9 Lo, the LEADER dies!	10	11 Mr. Hulk goes to Washington!	12 Rick spills the beans! "BRUCE BANNER IS THE HULK!"
13 Many Happy Returns to Marvelous MARV WOLFMAN!	14 Enter: THE EXECUTIONER!	15 Cheek to cheek with **Herc the Greek!**	16 In Memory of JOHN VERPOORTEN	17 BOOMERANG and the Beast! (Intro: ASTONISH #81)	18 The Hulk incognito! Guess who?	19
20 Never pick up a STRANGER!	21	22 Assault of THE ABOMINATION! I'm mean and green! (Intro: ASTONISH #90)	23 Birthday Felicitations to Winsome WIN MORTIMER!	24 What a **drag!** Hulk come home!	25	26 Happy Birthday to Hulky HERB TRIMPE!
27 Where soars the SILVER SURFER!	28 Hey, you —get off of my **board!** THOOM	29 Birthday Best to Slim JIM SALICRUP!	30	DAVE (the Dude) KRAFT Born to Write!	"Hi! I'm ANDY YANCHUS! Actually, my birthday is the 31st but there's this editor there and "	**"Never have I seen such raw, savage strength within a living mortal—! Yet, instead of anger, my heart feels pity . . . !"** —the Silver Surfer TALES TO ASTONISH #93

May art by George Pérez & Diverse Hands, inspired by *Tales to Astonish* #93

JUNE "Where Walk the Immortals!" 1979

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
"Who would have dreamt that I would one day share the identity—and the menace—of the most powerful brute alive?" —Dr. Robert Bruce Banner TALES TO ASTONISH #92					1	2 It's just another day?
3	4 Say **hello** to the HIGH EVOLUTIONARY!	5 Battle of the BEAST BRIGADE!	6	7 The High Evolutionary becomes One with the Universe! Let me take you **higher**!	8 The Legions of the LIVING LIGHTNING! (intro: ASTONISH #97)	9 Happy Birthday to GEORGE (Pacesetter) PEREZ!
10 The Original Odd Couple!	11	12 A Landmark Issue!  (ASTONISH #100)	13 Monsters over Miami!	14 Welcome to the **fun** and **sun** capital of the world!	15 Pawns of the PUPPET MASTER!	16 Today was born Flashy FRANK THORNE! 
17	18  19	20	21 The Scientist who Fell from Grace with the Gods! Bottoms up!	22 Solo Again! (HULK #102)	23 Enraptured by THE ENCHANTRESS!	
24 Thus spake the SPACE PARASITE! C'mon and take a **free ride**! No!  (Intro: HULK #103)	25 RHINO horns in on the Hulk!	26	27 Hulk in the Sky with Betty! 	28 Rootin' Tootin' Birthday Greetings to Royal MIKE ROYER!	29 Make way for the MISSING LINK!	30

June art by John Buscema & Josef Rubinstein, inspired by *Tales to Astonish* #101

JULY "A Clash of Titans!" 1979

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 A boy and his Hulk!	3 Hulk hath no FURY . . . ! There's no escape from my porridge pot!	4 At the mercy of the MANDARIN!	5 Hulk is mad as heck— —and he's not gonna **take** it any more!	6 Today's Birthday boy—Jocular JOHN BYRNE!	7 Hulk drops in on the **Savage Land!**
8 Call him— KA-ZAR!	9 Meet Ka-zar's kitty, ZABU! Scat, cat! RRR	10	11 Unleash UMBU THE UNLIVING!	12 Banner meets BIGFOOT!	13 What is Terrific TOM PALMER celebrating? His birthday!	14 Hey, Mighty MIKE ESPOSITO— you can't have your birthday and ink it too!
15 Introducing the **evil** INHUMANS! HULK ANNUAL #1	16	17 Dog Day Afternoon! Doggone!	18 Belted by BLACK BOLT!	19 Shanghaied in space!	20 Gosh, it's the GALAXY MASTER! You said a mouthful!	21
22 Heavy, man!	23 Sandbagged by the SANDMAN! I'm graining on you!	24 Lo, the LEADER lives— again! Big Brain is a big pain!	25	26 Last Tango in Atlantis! Fishman is all wet!	27 Birthday Blessings to Earnest ERNIE CHAN!	28 Get a grip on THE GLOB! (Intro: HULK #121)
29	30 Gimmie dat THING! IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME!!	31 Make a Wish, Dimply DENISE WOHL!	FINALLY, HIS UNREASONING RAGE SPENT AT LAST, THE GREEN-SKINNED GOLIATH SLOWLY TURNS... TO FACE THE BREAKING DAWN... A NEW DAY...A NEW SUNRISE...FOR EVERY-ONE... BUT, FOR THE HULK...IT MEANS ANOTHER DAY OF RUNNING...OF HIDING... OF HATING! WHOEVER THE SUN SHINES ON...EVERYONE THAT LIVES...IS MY ENEMY!			

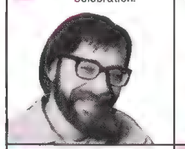
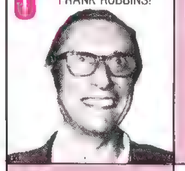
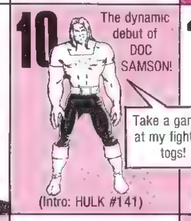
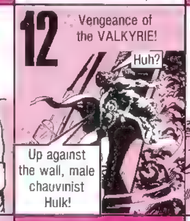
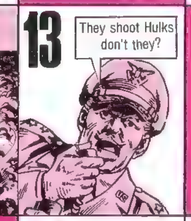
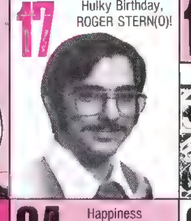
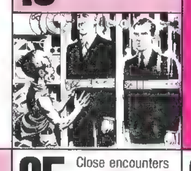
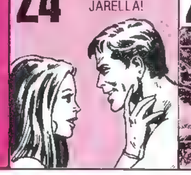
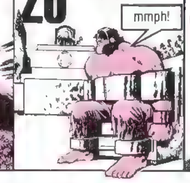
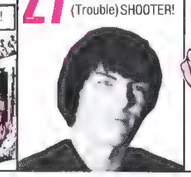
July art by Ron Wilson & Pablo Marcos, inspired by *The Fantastic Four* #112

AUGUST "Many FOES Has the Hulk!" 1979

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 Follow the LEADER! Boy, if I ever get a headache...!	3 Blast it!	4 Hulk's alter-ego at the altar! Banner takes a bride—almost!
5 And now... THE ABSORBING MAN! 50% more absorbent than the leading paper towel!	6 Honors to Energetic ED HANNIGAN Or Else!	7 Birthday Felicitations to Jovial JANICE COHEN!	8 Purple pants' first platter! Nobody Loves THE HULK It has a good beat and you can stomp to it!	9 The nefarious NIGHT-CRAWLER! I'm in the dark!		11
12 MOGUL THE MERCILESS (may he rest in pieces)!	13 Birthday Gibberings to JIM (Madman) MOONEY!	JOHN COSTANZA Celebrates 14 —National Call graphy Day!	15 Grab a gob of the GLOB!	16 Hulk bops Banner on the bean!	17 Happy Birthday to Jet-Propelled JOHN ROMITA, JR.	18 Then came JIM WILSON! I am not a crook!
19	20 Hulk hails HYDRA—his way!	Mirthful MARIE SEVERIN's Birthday Blast!	22 A-conquering came KANG—the Time-Tripper!	23 Triumphant TERRY AUSTIN tallies up another terrific year! Gee!	24 Who is KLAATU? (Intro: HULK #136)	25 I—am—CYBOR! (Intro: HULK #137)
26 A shattering experience—Betty is turned to glass! Everyone can see thru me now!	27 Whirlin' DON PERLIN—Brooklyn's Birthday Boy!	28 JACK (King) KIRBY! Long Live the King!	If I drop this fishbowl the Hulk is doomed!	30	31 And let us not forget ol' Greenskin's most persistent foe—	Ross the Boss! HRRMPPH!

August art by Keith Pollard & Tom Palmer, inspired by *The Incredible Hulk* #139

SEPTEMBER "The Brute That Shouted LOVE at the Heart of the Atom!" 1979

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Genial GENE COLAN! Have a Happy Birthday!
2 Wild-and-Woolly WALT SIMONSON's Annual Birth Celebration! 	3 Keep an eye out for the far-sighted PSYKLOP! (Intro: AVENGERS #88)	4	5 Presenting JARELLA, the Green Queen! (Intro: HULK #140)	6	7 The Emerald Emperor's new clothes!	8 Today is Artful ARCHIE GOODWIN's Big Birthday Bash!
9 Birthday Blessings to Friendly FRANK ROBBINS! 	10 The dynamic debut of DOC SAMSON!  (Intro: HULK #141)	11 Hulk turns radical chic!	12 Vengeance of the VALKYRIE!  Up against the wall, male chauvinist Hulk!	13 They shoot Hulks don't they? 	14	15 Make room for DOCTOR DOOM!
16 Today, all Hulk breaks loose!	17 Hulky Birthday, ROGER STERN(O)! 	18 Slaves of the LEADER! 	19	20 Happy Birthday to you, STEVE (Baby) GERBER!	21 Welcome to My Nightmare	22
23/30	24 Happiness is a warm JARELLA! 	25 Close encounters of a cockroach kind! Enter—THE INHERITOR! (Intro: HULK #149)	26 Hulk's day in court! 	27 High-Falutin' Felicitations to JIM (Trouble) SHOOTER! 	28 Hell is a very small Hulk!	29

September art by Herb Trimpe, inspired by *The Incredible Hulk* #140

OCTOBER "The Fight and the Fury!" 1979

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Hulk is hopping mad!	1	2 Annoyed by ANT-MAN!	3 Hulk makes the cover of the ROLLING STONE!	4	5 The sinister SHAPER! Fairy tales can come true	6 Even a Green-skinned Goliath can cry!
7 Lo, the LEADER **still** lives— but just barely!	8 Betty Ross and Glenn Talbot tie the knot— —and honeymoon at Niagara Falls!	9 Hulk and TIGER SHARK drop in! You drop!	10	11 Barely bruised by the BEAST!	Clash in Canada! 12	13
14 The wind cries— WENDIGO! (Intro: HULK #162)	15 The GREMLIN over the Kremlin! (Intro: HULK #163)	16 Happy Birthday Joltin' JOE SINNOTT	17 The coming of CAPTAIN OMEN! Amen to that! (Intro: HULK #164)	18 The deadly thing from the dynamo! ZZZAX—me! (Intro. HULK #166)	19	20 Shake hands with COL. JOHN D. ARMBRUSTER Armbruster's my name—Hulk-busting's my game! (Intro: HULK #169)
21 MODOK steps out!	22	23 Hulk turns on to flower power!	24 My honey, THE HARPY! (Intro: HULK #168)	25 Beware the BI-BEAST! Two heads are better than one! (Intro: HULK #169)	26 Larrupin' LARRY LIEBER I was born today!	27
28 Banner in the sky with Betty! I really fell for you!	29 Call in the COBALT MAN!	30 BLACK BOLT sounds off! Is it live—or is it Memorex?	31	PROJECT GREENSKIN PROPOSED SITE OF MOBILE COMBAT FORCE ONE		

October art by Sal Buscema, John Romita & Dave Hunt, inspired by *The Amazing Spider-Man* #120

NOVEMBER "Crisis on Counter-Earth" 1979

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
"For all living things are KINDRED to one another and no matter what their outward form, in helping ONE, we help ALL, remember that always, my friends." —Adam Warlock (HULK #178)				1	2 Man-beast for president! I wanna be elected!	3 Toad on the telephone! I've gotta frog in my throat!
4 Time out for tea	5	6	7 Found: one MISSING LINK!	8 Once more: THE WENDIGO! He ain't heavy, he's my brother!	Boisterous BILL MANTLO's birthday!	10 Well, whaddya know—it's the WOLVERINE! I'm a real sharp dude!
11 Delightful DAVE COCKRUM's Day of Birth! I was born yesterday!	12 Roguish ROGER SLIFER!	13 Between HAMMER and ANVIL! Guess which is which?	14 Snackin' with CRACKAJACK JACKSON! Eat up yo' food, bro'! Beans!	15 ZZZAX is back—to blow his stack!	16 Me and my SHADOW!	17
18 Today is the day of the DEVASTATOR! Hulkbuster Base-Buster!	19	20 Precious master have no fear— —your loving DROOG pet is here!	21	22 Best Birthday wishes to Rascally ROY THOMAS!	23 GLORIAN, the guy who came down from the rainbow!	24 Toss in the transient TOAD MEN! Reach for the sky!
25 Happy Birthday, CHRIS CLAREMONT So *that's* what he looks like!	26	27 Hulk nettles NESSIE! I'm going out of my head over you!	28 Day of the LOCUST! See the movie! Read the comic!	29 HULK-UGH!-LIKES BEANS Hulky THANKSGIVING!	30	TO BE HULK-INUED!

November art by John Byrne & Terry Austin, inspired by *The Incredible Hulk* #176

DECEMBER "The Dynamic DEFENDERS!" 1979

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Man Brute battles MAN-THING!	3 Hulk meets Howard in a world they never made!	4 At last Titanic 200th ish!	5	6 Birthday Felicitations to Fancy FRANK SPRINGER	7 8 Monsters On Parade!	
9 Jade-Jaws Speaks Out:	10 WHAT IF...the Hulk had the brain of Bruce Banner?	11 Big JOHN BUSCEMA's bombastic Birthday!	12 Banner gets a new place to live – –and a new landlady to boot!	13 DOCTOR DRUID is back!	14	15 Crushed by the CONSTRICTOR! (Intro. HULK #212)
16 You just don't quarrel with the QUINTRONIC MAN! (Intro HULK #213)	17 I've got an ace up my sleeve! The JACK OF HEARTS is wild!	18	19 The BI-BEAST is back– –bitter than ever before.	20 Hulk takes a holiday!	21 Would you believe– ROBINSON CRUSOE?	22 Tanks– but no tanks!
23/30 Hulk goes Hollywood!	24/31 (Two TV specials, 1977)	25 X-Mas with the X-MEN!	26 Stung by the STINGRAY!	27	28 Smilin' STAN LEE says: Bring on the Birthday Cards!	29 THERE GOES THE INCREDIBLE HULK

December art by Ed Hannigan & Klaus Janson, inspired by *The Defenders* #6

More BULLPEN BIRTHDAYS To Confuse and Amuse You!

JANUARY

7: **BOB WIACEK**— Enthusiastic Embellisher
24: **DICKIE McKENZIE**— Enticing Editorial Assistant

FEBRUARY

3: **RICK MARSCHALL**—Marvel Magazine Editor
10: **IRV WATANABE**— Lonesome Letterer
23: **BOB MARCZAK**— Sol's Second-in-Command
28: **NANCY MURPHY**— Subscription Sultaness
NEL YOMTOV— Production Prince

DICKIE

MARCH

1: **TOM ORZECHOWSKI**— Californian Calligrapher
3: **MARK ESPOSITO**— British Bullpenner
14: **LEN GROW**— Powerhouse Production Manager
15: **BOB BUDIANSKY**— Pain-staking Penciler
18: **GARY BRODSKY**— Sol's Son
19: **FLO TUMMINELLO**— Sol's Snappy Secretary

RICK

APRIL

8: **MICHELE WOLFMAN**— Meticulous Colorist
21: **STAN AARON**— Typesetting Terror

DUFFY

MAY

24: **DAVIDA LICHTER-DALE**— Paste-Ups for a Price
28: **MORRIE KURAMOTO**— Long-Lasting Letterer

JUNE

7: **RICK HOBERG**— Acolyte Artist
8: **RAY HOLLOWAY**— Spidey Letterer
MIKE HIGGINS— Liltin' Letterer
14: **SAM GRAINGER**—Dazzling Delineator
15: **DON McGREGOR**— Undaunted Still
18: **MARK GRUENWALD**— Serious Editorial Staffer
20: **DUFFY VOHLAND**— Member of I.O.O.F.

JULY

6: **DAVID COHEN**— Professor of Production
9: **VIRGINIA ROMITA**— Art Director's Adorable Assistant

AUGUST

19: **GEORGE ROUSSOS**— Cavortin' Colorist
25: **DIANE RODRIGO**— Subscription Staffer
DON WARFIELD— Another Cavortin' Colorist
31: **RICK PARKER**— Palaverin' Production Person

MARK

SEPTEMBER

1: **GASPAR SALADINO**— Friendly Letterer
5: **MICHAEL KUDZINOWSKI**— Man of the Mailroom
10: **JOSIE BETEMIT**— Rhapsodic Receptionist
14: **JIM NOVAK**— Laughin' Letterer
17: **DANNY FINGEROTH**— Larry's Left-hand Man
18: **IRENE VARTANOFF**— Peaceful Production Pundit
23: **HELLEN KATZ**— Shooter's Super Secretary
25: **HOWARD BENDER**— Pencilin' Production Person from Pittsburgh

BOB

OCTOBER

16: **BOB HALL**— Editor, Artist and Playwright
24: **PAUL LAIKIN**— Crazy Editor

NOVEMBER

8: **ROGER McKENZIE**— Southern Scripter
15: **STU SCHARTZBERG**— Sly Statman

RALPH

DECEMBER

11: **MARY MAC**— Gal Friday
19: **MARTHA CONWAY**— Stan's Sensational Secretary
28: **RALPH MACCHIO**— Rick's Right-hand Man

We admit it! You can't escape from him! The Hulk is everywhere these days! From his awesome and adorable appearances on his own weekly one-hour prime time TV show, to his nifty new series of full-color anthologies published by prestigious Pocket Books, to his own titanic title in the sensational Simon and Schuster "Origins" series, as well as his dazzling deluxe edition slick-paper magazine, to this very calendar, which is already destined to become one of the most widely heralded collectors' items in the Western Hemisphere! (Or, at the very least, in my own neighborhood! Well, certainly in the Marvel Bullpen!)

But, how did it happen? What suddenly transformed our overgrown green-skinned gremlin into the Robert Redford of contemporary monsterdom? What caused an otherwise calm and casual human race to be transformed into a tribe of howling, hysterical Hulkophiles? What has made our raging rampager become the dainty darling of the literary set and the idol of grassroots America—not to mention Aunt May's all-time favorite pin-up?

Well, luckily this is my column, so I can say what I want to. I can ask all the questions I choose, but I don't haveta answer them! I'll just leave that to loveable little you!

However, to prove I'm the very soul of generosity, here's a gratuitous hint for you. I suspect there's a little bit of the monster in each of us; a little bit of longing to be able to browbeat a bad guy with our bulging biceps and righteous wrath. In fact, the next time they're trying to select a new national holiday, or even a new TV game show, I'm gonna suggest "Be a Hulk for a Day!" Dynamite!

But now, alas, I have to leave thee. There's a nut with granite-hard green fists pounding on my typewriter and shouting "Enuff awreddy!" Just between you and me, I think he's trying to tell me something!

Hey, Hulk baby—leggo! Don't you remember me? I'm practically your daddy! Look, if you wanna write your own column next time, just say so! Who's gonna argue with you? But that's my neck, big fella! It's attached—honest! Aw, gee—wotta grouch!

Excelsior!

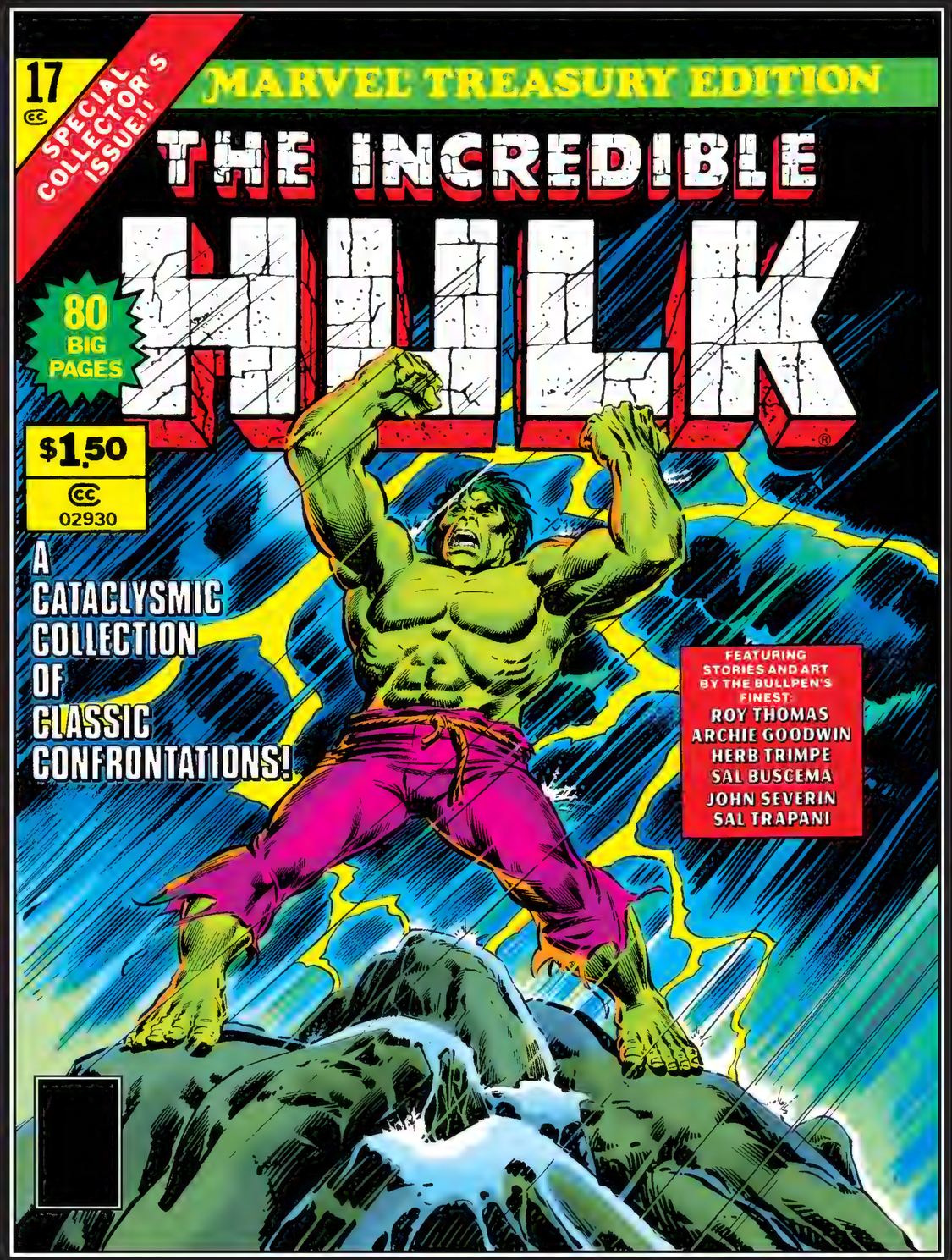
Stan

Hulk art by Walter Simonson

Back cover art by Herb Trimpe

Marvel Heroes house ad
from May 1978 titles

Between covers by Jeff Aclin & Tony DeZuniga, *Marvel Treasury Edition* #17 (1978) reprinted *The Incredible Hulk* #121, #134, #150 and #158



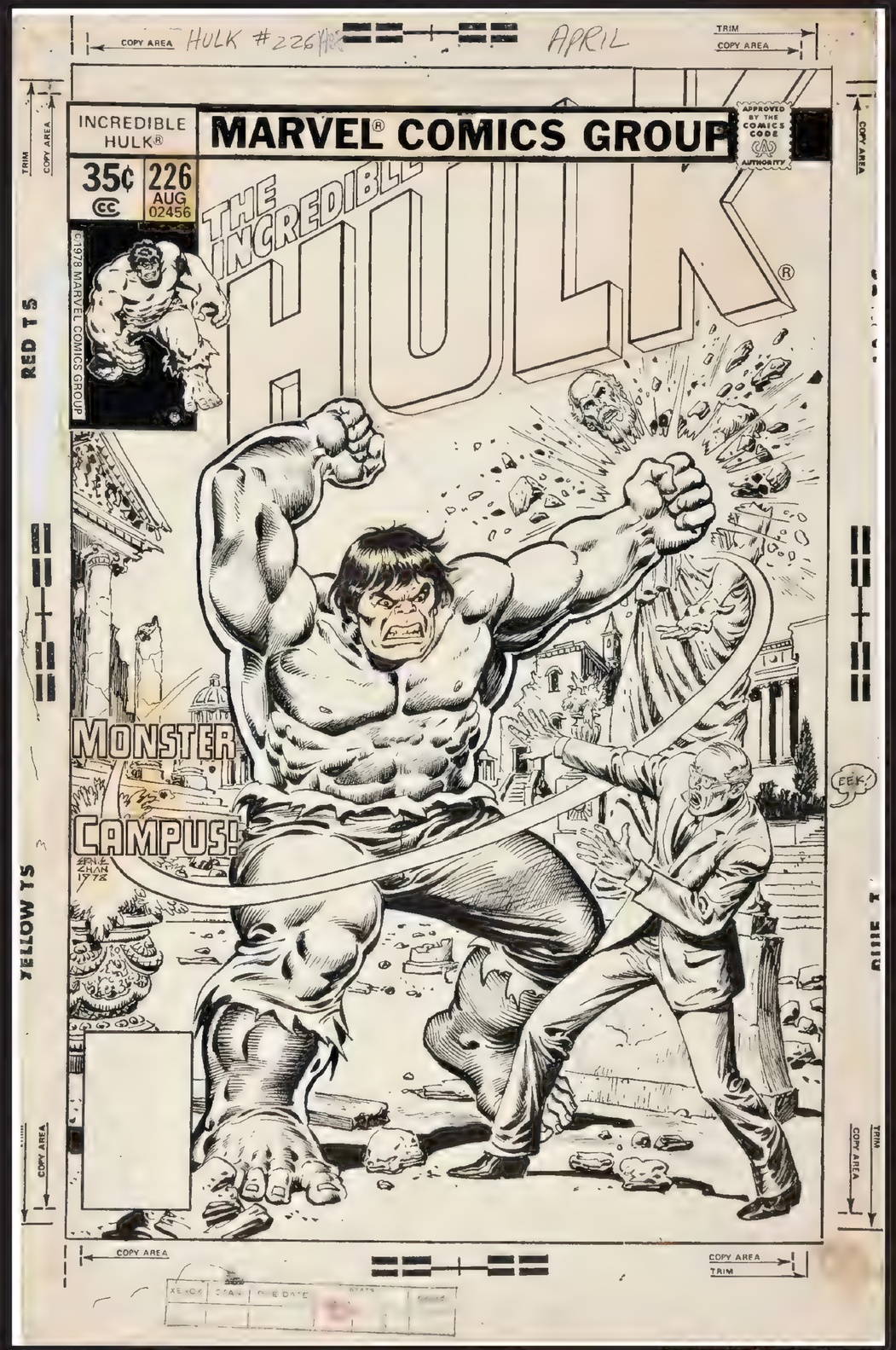
F.O.O.M. #22 (Autumn 1978) preview of the
1979 Mighty Marvel Comics Calendar starring the Hulk

Another FOOMtastic Preview Feature!

Hotcha! It's the Year of the Hulk—so give a hoot and a holler for the mind-boggling '79 mighty Marvel Calendar starring Ol' Greenskin! The whole blamed Bullpen has been hard at work for an entire year (ever since last year's smash Spidey Calendar!) to bring you a titanic treat that can't be beat!

Previewed here are select pin-ups from the forthcoming Simon-and-Schuster extravaganza, available in better bookstores everywhere. This time, we've gone all-out for our jolly green giant, even to the extent of including an (all-new) mini-origin by **Dave** (the Dude) **Kraft** and Happy **Herb Trimpe.** There's even a personal message from Smilin' **Stan Lee,** as well as little-known facts, much mirth, and a myriad of pin-up milestones—so what're ya waitin' for?

The Incredible Hulk #226 cover original art
by Ernie Chan

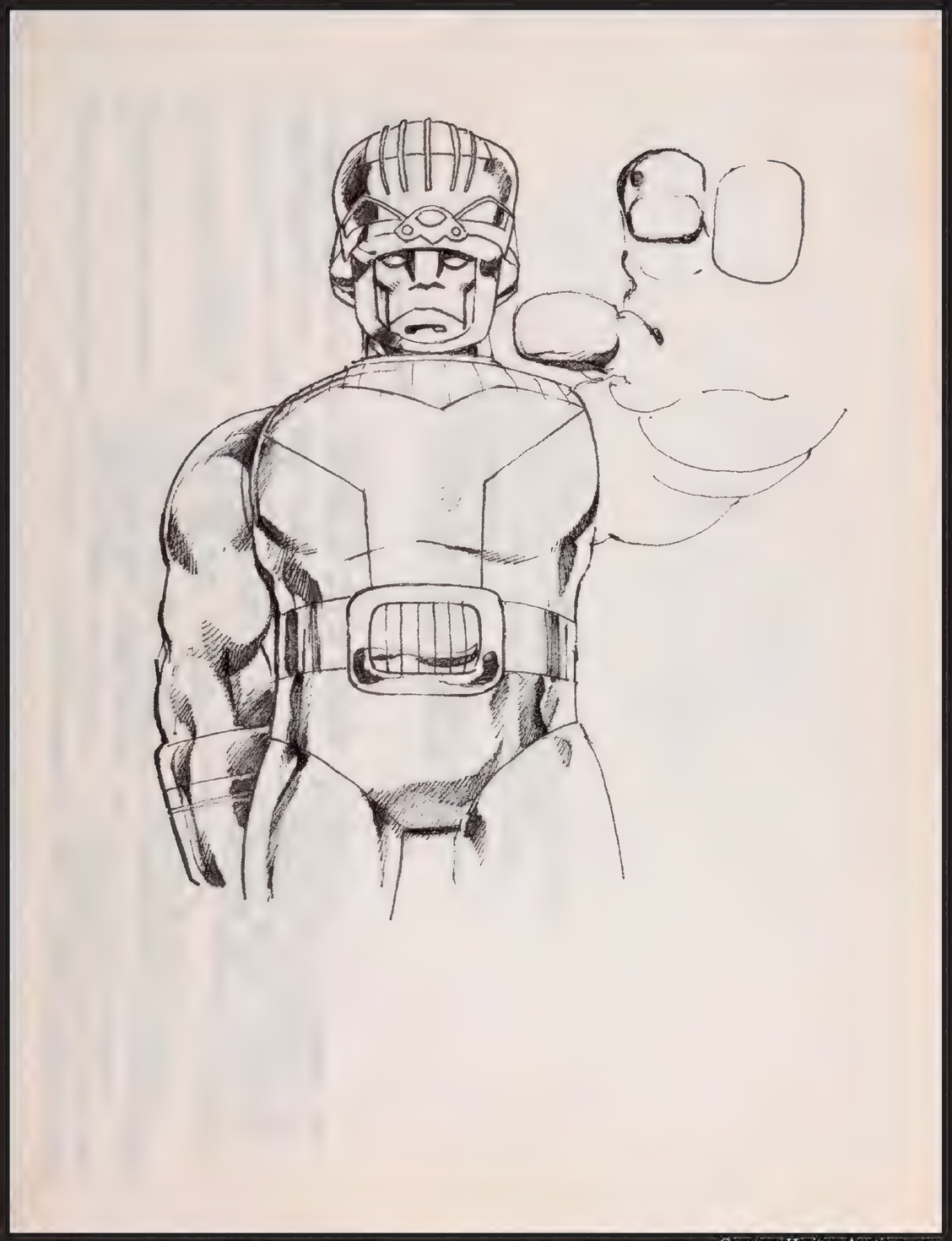


Courtesy HeritageAuctions.com

The Incredible Hulk #226, page 13 original art
by Sal Buscema & Joe Sinnott

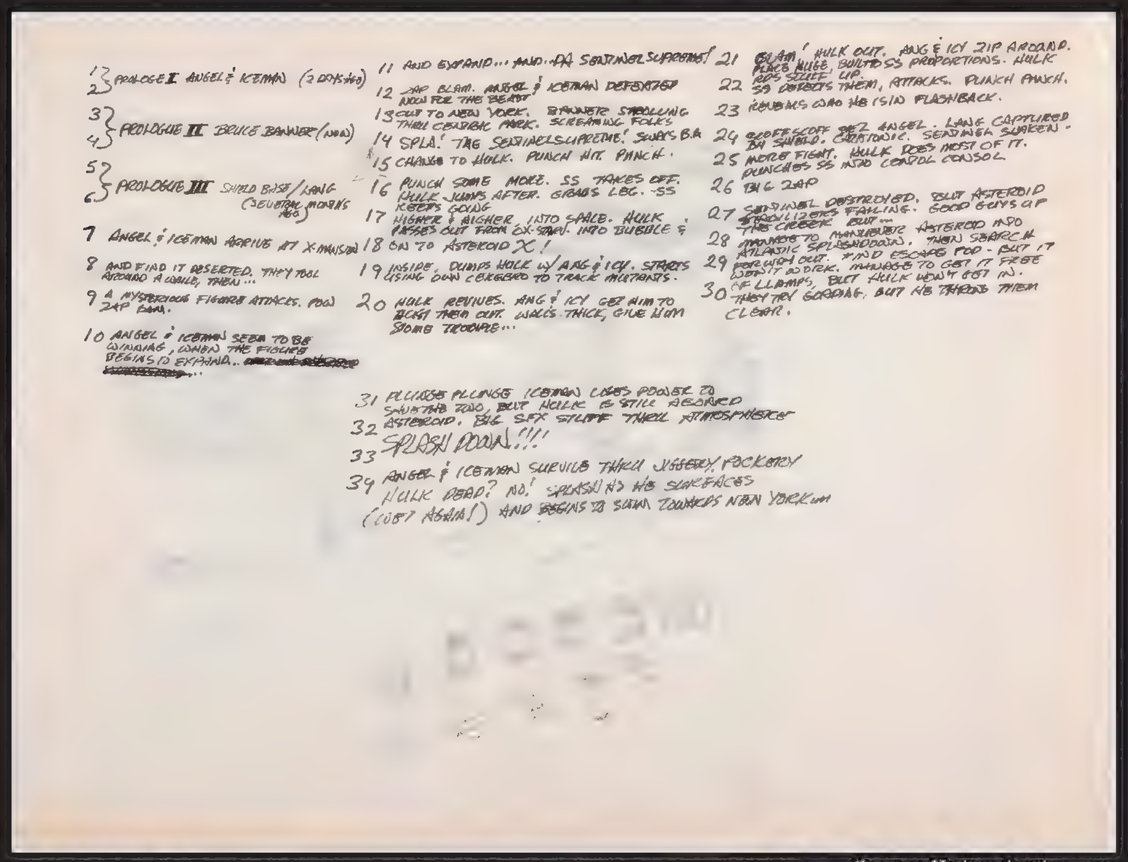
Courtesy HeritageAuctions.com

The Incredible Hulk Annual #7, Master Mold sketch
by John Byrne



Courtesy HeritageAuctions.com

The Incredible Hulk Annual #7, plot breakdown notes
by John Byrne

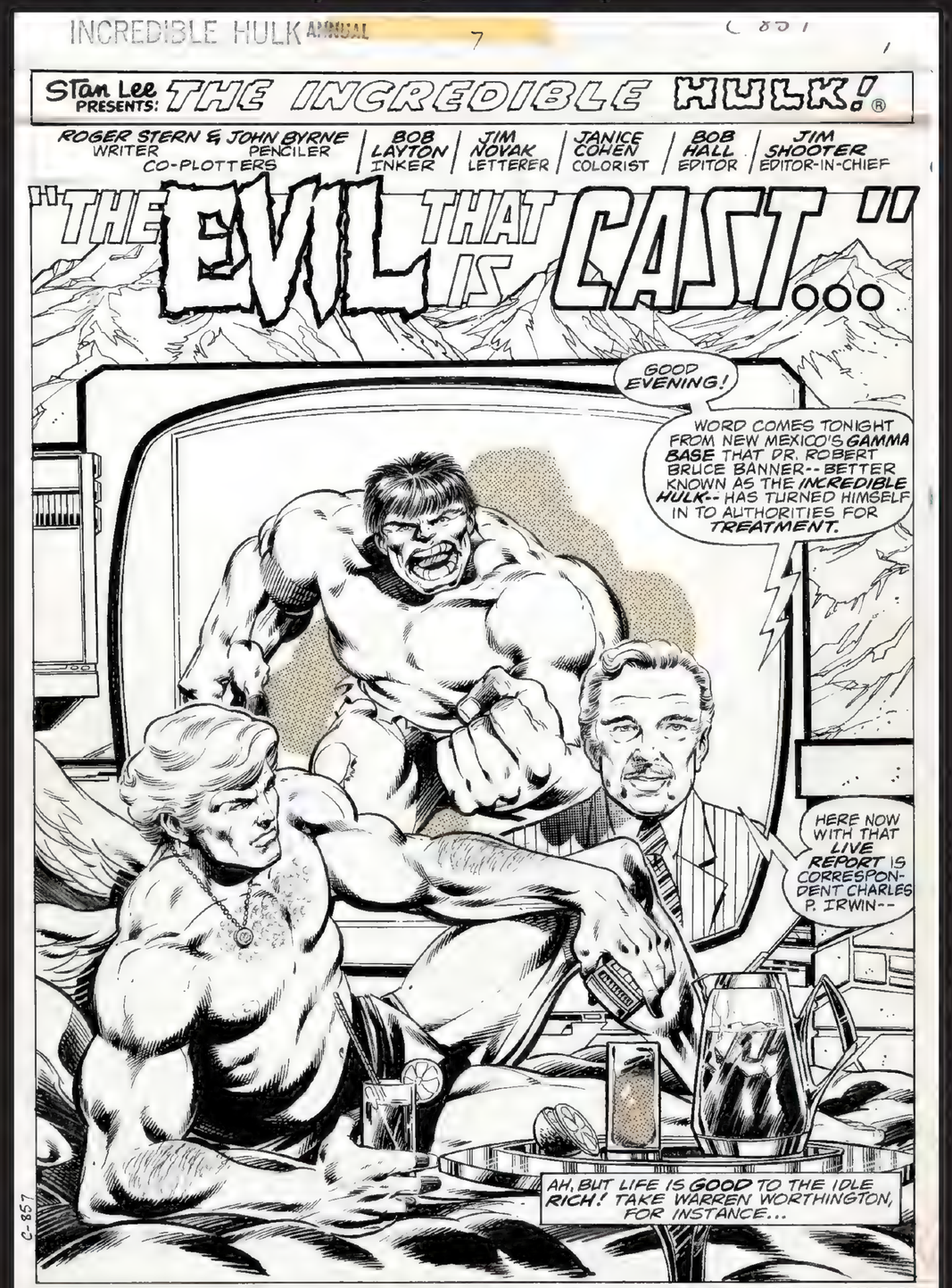


Courtesy HeritageAuctions.com

Courtesy Roger Stern

The Incredible Hulk
#228 Moonstone
design sketch
by John Byrne

The Incredible Hulk Annual #7, page 1 original art
by John Byrne & Bob Layton



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Courtesy HeritageAuctions.com

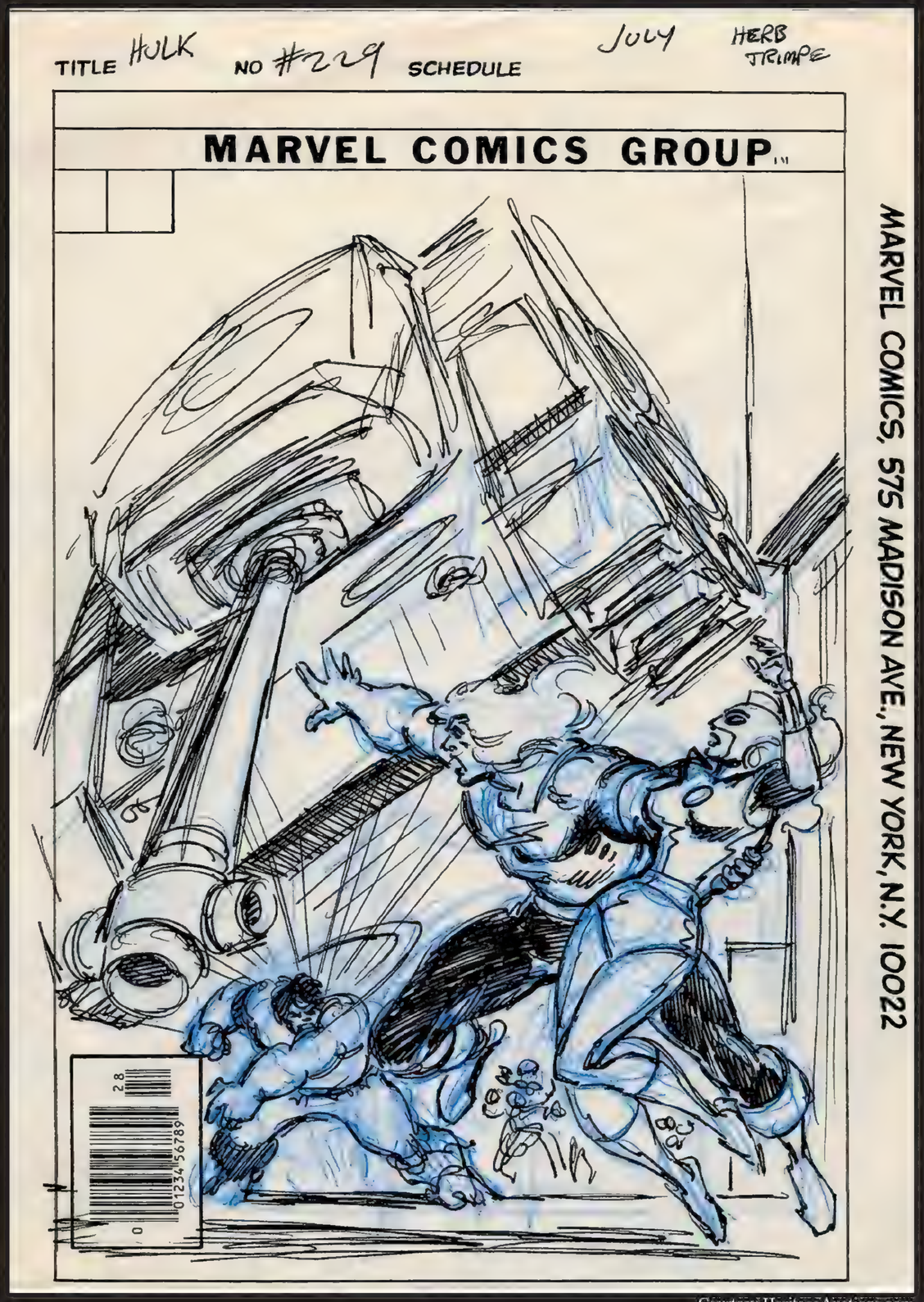
The Incredible Hulk Annual #7, page 10 original art
by John Byrne & Bob Layton

Courtesy HeritageAuctions.com

The Incredible Hulk #227, page 7 original art
by Sal Buscema & Klaus Janson

Courtesy HeritageAuctions.com

The Incredible Hulk #229 cover sketch
by Dave Cockrum



Courtesy HeritageAuctions.com

The Incredible Hulk #232, page 1 original art
by Sal Buscema & Mike Esposito

Courtesy HeritageAuctions.com

BIOGRAPHIES

ROGER STERN

Born in Noblesville, Indiana, in 1950, Roger Stern was a self-professed "child of the '50s," immersing himself in pop culture icons like Lucille Ball, the Lone Ranger, and especially Superman. After graduating from Indiana University, Stern worked at Indianapolis' WXLW radio and formed a comic fan collective with fans in the region. Stern teamed with fellow Hoosier Bob Layton to transform Layton's comic sales business into the fanzine *CPL* (*Contemporary Pictorial Literature*). Their efforts led to an offer from Charlton to create the publisher's official fanzine, *Charlton Bullseye*. Soon after, Stern's fandom pal Roger Slifer contacted him with an opportunity to interview for a Marvel staff job. Stern raced to New York to put his passion for comics to the test. He was hired as an assistant editor and in 1975 embarked on an eleven-year career at Marvel. Stern's early editing duties saw him guiding the Avengers family of titles, *Master of Kung Fu*, *Spider-Woman*, and others. He also presided over *X-Men* during the seminal Chris Claremont, John Byrne, and Terry Austin run, and plotted *Marvel Premiere* #50 starring rocker Alice Cooper.

In 1978, he began to take on regular writing work on *The Incredible Hulk* and *Doctor Strange*. His compelling storytelling quickly earned him an audience and turns writing *Captain America* and Spider-Man in *The Spectacular Spider-Man*. The latter title led to his tenure on *The Amazing Spider-Man*, a run regarded by many as second only to Stan Lee's. Amongst their many Spidey highlights, Stern and artist John Romita Jr. introduced the Hobgoblin and a new Captain Marvel, Monica Rambeau. Stern also began a long stint on *The Avengers*, launched *West Coast Avengers*, and returned for another celebrated run on *Doctor Strange*.

When his tenure with Marvel came to an end in the late '80s, Stern became indelibly linked to the Man of Steel with iconic work that included "The Death of Superman." Since then "Uncle Rog," as he is known to his devoted fans, has returned to Marvel to write several series including *Avengers Forever*, *Amazing Spider-Man*, *Marvel: The Lost Generation*, *Captain America Corps*, and more.

SAL BUSCEMA

Without a doubt one of comics' most prolific artists, "Our Pal" Sal Buscema joined Marvel in 1968 shortly after his elder brother, John. Tackling inking duties on *Silver Surfer* and *Fantastic Four*, including the all-time classic *Silver Surfer* #4, Buscema quickly graduated to penciling. He was an anchor of the Marvel line in the 1970s with long runs on books like *Captain America*, *Marvel Team-Up* and *The Spectacular Spider-Man* and a 100-plus issue run on *The Incredible Hulk*. Buscema was also behind defining the tone on early issues of *The Defenders*, *Rom* and *The New Mutants*. His career as one of Marvel's most versatile artists lasted throughout the '70s and into the '90s. In 1988, he returned to *The Spectacular Spider-Man* and over the next ten years penciled every issue but two from #134 through #238 (and inked the vast majority as well!) Although he retired in the late '90s, readers can still see his name on comics credits from time to time, including inking work on the cult hit *Spider-Girl*.

JOHN BYRNE

With his naturalistic style captivating legions of fans, John Byrne became one of the most influential and popular comic artists of the '70s and '80s. Born in England but raised in Canada, with four years of art school training under his belt, Byrne headed straight for the comics business, getting his start with Charlton Comics.

He produced his first original creations, the robot Rog-2000—which appeared as a backup strip in *E-Man*—and *Doomsday +1* at Charlton. Though the art was rough compared to his later standards, it drew the attention of Marvel Comics, where he found work on *Champions*, *Iron Fist* and *Marvel Team-Up*. The relationship he established on these books with writer Chris Claremont led to his entry on a title that was rapidly ascending in importance at Marvel: the "All-New, All-Different" *X-Men*.

Taking the torch from Dave Cockrum, for the next five years Byrne penciled and co-plotted the adventures of Marvel's mutants. His fresh style translated perfectly to the new cast of characters, and together Byrne and Claremont built the X-Men into a keystone title at Marvel. However, just after the twin triumphs of "The Dark Phoenix Saga" and "Days of Future Past," Byrne left the book.

His next major achievement was a long run as writer/artist on *Fantastic Four* that restored the title to its imaginative best. His run hearkened back to the glory days of Lee and Kirby and is arguably the milestone achievement of his career. Other high points in his early '80s Marvel work included "War and Remembrance," a bracing set of Captain America stories with Roger Stern and *Alpha Flight*, a team of Canadian heroes written and drawn by Byrne.

Next, Byrne headed to DC Comics to revive the flagging Superman franchise with a reset of the Superman mythos that was enormously popular at the time and is still hailed as a masterpiece decades later. After two years helming Superman, Byrne returned to Marvel to work on a diverse set of books including the New Universe's *Star Brand*, the irreverent *Sensational She-Hulk* and the high-tech adventures of Iron Man. In the 1990s, Byrne launched his creator-owned series *Next Men*, scripted the first issues of Mike Mignola's *Hellboy* and delivered the goods for both Marvel and DC on numerous titles. Today, the implacable Byrne continues to write, draw and preside over a popular website. He was inducted into the Eisner Hall of Fame in 2015.

PETER GILLIS

Peter B. Gillis' notched sustained runs on *Doctor Strange*,

Micronauts and *The Defenders*, but it was the world of *Strikeforce: Morituri* that remains his most lasting contribution to comics. Starting in 1978, Gillis wrote fill-in issues of various Marvel titles, as well as periodic issues of *Captain America*, *Marvel Two-In-One* and *Super-Villain Team-Up*. He also contributed to several issues of *What If?,* with highlights including "What If Spider-Man Had Stopped the Burglar Who Killed His Uncle?" and "What If Hulk's Girlfriend Jarella Had Not Died?"

In 1983, Gillis began his association with independent comics publisher First Comics by adapting the Broadway sci-fi/comics fantasy play *Warp* with Frank Brunner. Next for First, Gillis wrote *Shatter*, the industry's first all-digitally produced comic done in collaboration with Mike Saenz. Meanwhile at Marvel, Gillis settled into a long run writing *The Defenders*, the 1984 relaunch of *Micronauts* and the first eight issues of an *Eternals* limited series. He began writing *Doctor Strange* in 1985, and hung with the series as it transferred to titles including *Strange Tales* and *Doctor Strange, Sorcerer Supreme*.

Gillis' most celebrated work, *Strikeforce: Morituri*, debuted in 1986. Drawn by Brent Anderson, it told the story of a cadre of soldiers granted super powers to fight off an alien invasion, though at the eventual cost of their own lives. Gillis wrapped up his comic-writing career in the late '80s and early '90s, writing *Tailgunner Jo* and *Gammarauders* for DC, and stories for Marvel anthologies *Marvel Comics Presents*, *Solo Avengers* and *What The?*

DAVID ANTHONY KRAFT

David Anthony Kraft has made his mark in comics as a writer, editor, publisher and industry journalist. He broke into comics at the age of 18, and by 1974 had launched his own science fiction/fantasy publishing company, Fictioneer, and made inroads as a rock music critic.

Kraft's tenure at Marvel also began in 1974; his early years were spent as an associate editor working with Don McGregor and Roy Thomas on the company's color comics and later the black-and-white magazines, including *The Deadly Hands of Kung Fu* and *Rampaging Hulk*. Meanwhile, he scored writing credits with stories in *Tales of the Zombie* and *Haunt of Horror*. He also wrote a pair of stories in *Giant-Size Dracula* and notched a five-issue run writing Man-Wolf in *Creatures on the Loose*. At Atlas/Seaboard Comics, he worked as an assistant editor and writer before starting to write for DC in 1976 with work on *Secret Society of Super-Villains*, *Blackhawk* and *Kamandi*. By the following year, Kraft was back at Marvel and fully entrenched for a six-year run. On top of editing the Marvel fan magazine *F.O.O.M.*, Kraft took over writing duties on *Logan's Run* and *The Defenders*, where he would start a 24-issue run as writer. Kraft also got to wield his passion for rock music on a pair of stories in the tabloid-sized *Marvel Comics Super Special* magazine—a Beatles biography and an adaptation of the Bee Gees film *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*—both also drawn by frequent art collaborator George Pérez.

In 1980, Kraft took the reins of *Savage She-Hulk* after its first Stan Lee-scripted issue and would write the series to its finale two years later. Kraft wound up his 1980s tenure with Marvel writing *Captain America* and *Marvel Two-In-One*, an adaptation of *The Dark Crystal* and various children's titles for Marvel Books. After a 13-issue stint writing *World's Finest Comics* for DC, Kraft focused primarily on his own publishing pursuits, most prominently *Comics Interview* magazine, a long-running and popular insider account of the comic book industry, as well as a line of comics that included the first work by Brian Stelfreeze and other talents. Kraft has also worked as a story editor for TV, including credits on *G.I. Joe Extreme* and *Street Fighter*, and continues to bring his creative acumen to the comic book field today, including writing for the revitalized *Tales from the Crypt* and editing, co-writing and laying out the graphic novel *Yi Soon Shin*.

ELLIOT S! MAGGIN

Elliot S! Maggin made quite a first impression on DC Editor Julie Schwartz, who in 1971 likened the maturity of the 20-year-old's first scripting effort—the Green Arrow story "What Can One Man Do?"—to the earliest writing efforts of Ray Bradbury. With Schwartz and superstar artist Neal Adams behind him, Maggin was immediately drafted into an ongoing writer's role with DC. His first Superman story—"Must There Be a Superman?" inspired by a concept from Maggin's 12-year-old pal, Jeph Loeb—would become one of the most beloved Superman stories of all time. From 1972 to 1976, Maggin was a prolific writer on *Superman*, *Action Comics* and *Shazam!* He teamed up Robin and Batgirl in the first issue of *Batman Family* and contributed stories to *Justice League of America*, *Wonder Woman*, *The Joker* and *Detective Comics*. A very brief output for Marvel in 1977 included stories in *The Spectacular Spider-Man*, *The Incredible Hulk* and an adaptation of *The Iliad* for *Marvel Classics Comics*. In addition to his comics writing, the Brandeis- and Columbia School of Journalism-educated Maggin filed stories with *The Village Voice*, *Los Angeles Times* and many other publications, taught in public school and raised horses in New Hampshire. It was in that state that Maggin ran for Congress in 1984, losing out in the Democratic primary. He would later be his party's candidate in the New York State Assembly District 19 race, though he would again be unsuccessful in winning. In the late '80s, Maggin returned to DC, once again writing *Superman*. His credits also include novelizations of the adventures of Superman in *Last Son of Krypton*, *Miracle Monday* and a prose adaptation of *Kingdom Come*. At Marvel in the late '90s, Maggin wrote stories for *Generation X* and *X-Men Adventures*.

ROGER McKENZIE

Kentucky-born Roger McKenzie began scripting comics in 1976 on Warren mags *Vampirella*, *Creepy* and *Eerie*. Influenced by both mystery and sci-fi writers, McKenzie was soon at Marvel adapting Battlestar Galactica for *Marvel Super Special* and picking up the reins of *Daredevil*. Several of his first issues were drawn by legendary *Daredevil* artist Gene Colan, but it was Frank Miller's debut in the title's 158th issue that gave McKenzie his most timeless collaborator. While he wrote the first year of Miller's *Daredevil*, McKenzie was also the ongoing writer of *Battlestar Galactica* and *Captain America*. During his tenure on the latter title, McKenzie and artist collaborator Don Perlin devised the plot of Captain America running for president. Later writer Roger Stern deployed the idea to much acclaim, making sure to credit McKenzie and Perlin for their inspiration. McKenzie's DC credits include *Men of War*, *Weird War Tales* and *House of Mystery*. He also premiered the red-headed gunslinger Cinnamon in the pages of *Weird Western Tales*. In the mid-'80s, McKenzie teamed with artist Pat Broderick on Pacific's *Sun Runners* and launched *Next Man* at Comico. McKenzie left the industry in the late '80s.

DAVID MICHELINIE

In 1974, David Michelinie moved to New York City determined to get his break in comics. DC editor Michael Fleisher recognized Michelinie's talents and took him under his wing, giving the young writer assignments in DC's horror anthologies. By the end of the year, Michelinie had landed his first regular gig, writing the Unknown Soldier in *Star Spangled War Stories*. He would hold down that series for the better part of two years, racking up additional credits in *Swamp Thing*, *Phantom Stranger*, and launching the sword and sorcery series *Claw the Unconquered*. Michelinie concluded his tenure at DC with credits including *Starfire*, *Star Hunters*, *Karate Kid* and an influential run on Aquaman that included the death of the hero's son. By 1979, Michelinie was writing exclusively for Marvel. His career-defining *Iron Man* run with writing partner (and inker) Bob Layton and artist John Romita, Jr. introduced Jim Rhodes and chronicled Tony Stark's descent into alcoholism. On *The Avengers*, he collaborated with artists John Byrne and George Pérez, and introduced the Taskmaster. He and Byrne also debuted Scott Lang as Ant-Man in *Marvel Premiere* #47.

In the early 1980s, Michelinie wrote *Star Wars* and *The Further Adventures of Indiana Jones*; *The Aladdin Effect* and *Revenge of the Living Monolith* Marvel Graphic Novels; and his Epic Comics series *The Bozz Chronicles* with artist Bret Blevins. In 1987, he returned for another celebrated run on *Iron Man* with Layton. A stint on *Web of Spider-Man* earned Michelinie the opportunity to write the core Spider-Man title, *The Amazing Spider-Man*, where he scribed the wedding of Peter Parker and Mary Jane Watson; and with superstar artist Todd McFarlane, introduced the massively popular villain Venom. Toward the end of his run, he introduced the spin-off villain Carnage. A '90s return to DC saw Michelinie writing Superman in *Action Comics*, including the wedding of Clark Kent and Lois Lane. He also joined industry upstart Valiant Comics to write *Rai*, *Turok*, and *H.A.R.D. Corps*. His most recent credits at Marvel have reunited him with Bob Layton on *Iron Man: Bad Blood*, *Iron Man: Legacy of Doom* and *Iron Man: The End*.

JIM MOONEY

A prolific comics artist since the 1940s, Jim Mooney proved nimble enough at penciling and inking that he gained a reputation for both disciplines that kept him in constant employ for decades. Tabbed by his peers with the nickname "Gentleman" Jim for his positive and polite demeanor, he became an artist revered by fans of both DC and Marvel Comics. Mooney broke into the business working under the tutelage of such luminaries as Will Eisner, Lou Fine and Nick Cardy. He would grow to find his artistic voice alongside peers like George Tuska and Ruben Moreira, freelancing for many of the era's most prominent publishers. As the decade progressed, his work at DC took prominence. Mooney was crafting stories of the Dynamic Duo in both *Batman* and *Detective Comics*, plus Robin stories in *Star-Spangled Comics*. He also drew many of the seminal adventures of Tommy Tomorrow in *Action Comics*. It was while drawing Supergirl in the pages of *Action Comics*, however, that Mooney crafted an enduring legacy with his clean, illustrative take on Superman's cousin.

Mooney worked at DC until 1968, when his bold, streamlined style was called upon to team with John Romita on *The Amazing Spider-Man*. It would be the beginning of a relationship with the web-slinger that would lead to almost two decades of memorable penciling and inking of the character, including *The Spectacular Spider-Man*, *Marvel Team-Up* and the flagship title. Mooney lent his hand to virtually every title Marvel produced in one way or another including noteworthy runs on *Ghost Rider*, *Man-Thing* and *Omega the Unknown*. In 2008, Mooney passed away at the age of 89 after an extended illness.

JIM SALICRUP

Jim Salicrup was born and raised in the Bronx but dreamed of one day moving to Manhattan to live and to work at Marvel Comics, whose super hero stories transfixed him.

In 1972, at the age of 15, his dream was realized. Salicrup was hired to messenger pages of art from the Marvel offices to the Comics Code Authority. While attending Manhattan's High School of Art and Design, he took on more Bullpen responsibilities, including helping package black-and-white reprints for the expanding UK market. Eventually he worked his way up to editor, with titles such as Chris Claremont and John Byrne's *The Uncanny X-Men*, Byrne's *Fantastic Four* and long runs on *Captain America* and *The Avengers* under his purview. While overseeing the Spider-Man titles, he edited "Kraven's Last Hunt," the wedding of Peter Parker and Mary Jane Watson and recruited Todd McFarlane to draw *The Amazing Spider-Man* and, later, the artist's own *Spider-Man* title. Salicrup also edited the insider newsmagazine *Marvel Age* for eight years and scripted titles in Marvel's Star Comics line, including *Visionaries* and *The Inhumanoids*.

In 1992, after twenty years at Marvel, he left to serve as editor in chief at Topps Comics, where he launched Jack Kirby's last major project in comics, the Kirbyverse. In the late '90s, he worked for Stan Lee as a writer/editor at his Stan Lee Media startup. Salicrup and his publishing partner Terry Nantier launched Papercutz in 2005, publishing graphic novels and comic books largely based on properties such as the Smurfs, *The Loud House* and *Asterix*.

Biographies researched and written by John Rhett Thomas

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THE GOLDEN AGE

As the Great Depression wore on and the specter of war hung over America, a new storytelling medium was born: the comic book. Within their four-color pages, larger-than-life super heroes could make short work of America's foes, giving readers of all ages hope for victory against the real-life enemies that faced the United States. At the forefront of this new medium was Timely Comics, a young company staffed by such legendary creators as Carl Burgos, Bill Everett, Joe Simon, Jack Kirby and Stan Lee. These trailblazing talents birthed a vast array of characters that would give rise to the Marvel Universe!

GOLDEN AGE ALL-WINNERS VOLS. 1-4
GOLDEN AGE CAPTAIN AMERICA VOLS. 1-6
GOLDEN AGE DARING MYSTERY VOLS. 1-2
GOLDEN AGE HUMAN TORCH VOLS. 1-3
GOLDEN AGE MARVEL COMICS VOLS. 1-7
GOLDEN AGE MYSTIC COMICS VOL. 1
GOLDEN AGE SUB-MARINER VOLS. 1-3
GOLDEN AGE U.S.A. COMICS VOLS. 1-2
GOLDEN AGE YOUNG ALLIES VOLS. 1-2

THE ATLAS ERA

Seeing super heroes waning, Timely Comics evolved into Atlas Comics and took on a vast new range of genres: science-fiction tales of outer space adventures; realistic war comics; buxom jungle heroines; horror comics that would become the center of a moral panic that rocked the industry; and romance comics for the emerging teen audience. Even the classic costumed heroes of the Golden Age retooled to take on the threat of Communism. From Western gunfighters to crime to horror, the Atlas Era had it all!

ATLAS ERA BATTLEFIELD VOL. 1
ATLAS ERA BLACK KNIGHT/YELLOW CLAW VOL. 1
ATLAS ERA HEROES VOLS. 1-3
ATLAS ERA JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY VOLS. 1-4
ATLAS ERA JUNGLE ADVENTURE VOLS. 1-3
ATLAS ERA MENACE VOL. 1
ATLAS ERA STRANGE TALES VOLS. 1-6
ATLAS ERA TALES TO ASTONISH VOLS. 1-4
ATLAS ERA TALES OF SUSPENSE VOLS. 1-4
ATLAS ERA VENUS VOL. 1

THE MARVEL AGE

In August 1961, change hit newsstands: *The Fantastic Four* #1 did not feature the squeaky-clean heroes of yesteryear. They were real characters placed in extraordinary circumstances. They lived together, they fought among themselves — and sometimes, they even lost to the bad guys. This was more than a change in attitude: It was the beginning of something entirely different — the beginning of the Marvel Age of Comics!

Thanks to the fertile imaginations of Stan Lee, Jack Kirby, Steve Ditko and others, an unending list of heroes followed the FF with ever-increasing acclaim and popularity: the Amazing Spider-Man, the Mighty Thor, the Incredible Hulk, Daredevil, Iron Man and the X-Men, to name but a few. These were the Marvel heroes, born of conflict and a continuous struggle to balance human lives with superhuman responsibilities.

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN VOLS. 1-22
ANT-MAN/GIANT-MAN VOLS. 1-3
THE AVENGERS VOLS. 1-20
THE BLACK PANTHER VOLS. 1-2
CAPTAIN AMERICA VOLS. 1-11
CAPTAIN MARVEL VOLS. 1-6
THE CHAMPIONS VOL. 1
DAREDEVIL VOLS. 1-14
DAZZLER VOL. 1
DEATHLOK VOL. 1
THE DEFENDERS VOLS. 1-6
DOCTOR STRANGE VOLS. 1-9
THE FANTASTIC FOUR VOLS. 1-22
GHOST RIDER VOL. 1
THE HUMAN TORCH VOLS. 1-2
THE INCREDIBLE HULK VOLS. 1-14
THE INHUMANS VOLS. 1-2
THE INVINCIBLE IRON MAN VOLS. 1-12
IRON FIST VOLS. 1-2
KA-ZAR VOLS. 1-2
KILLRAVEN VOL. 1
LUKE CAGE VOLS. 1-3
MARVEL RARITIES VOL. 1
MARVEL TEAM-UP VOLS. 1-5
MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE VOLS. 1-4
THE MIGHTY THOR VOLS. 1-19
MS. MARVEL VOLS. 1-2
NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D. VOLS. 1-3
NOT BRAND ECHH VOL. 1
RAWHIDE KID VOLS. 1-2
THE SAVAGE SHE-HULK VOLS. 1-2
SGT. FURY VOLS. 1-4
THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN VOLS. 1-3
SPIDER-WOMAN VOL. 1
THE SILVER SURFER VOLS. 1-2
THE SUB-MARINER VOLS. 1-8
WARLOCK VOLS. 1-2
THE X-MEN VOLS. 1-8
THE UNCANNY X-MEN VOLS. 1-12

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